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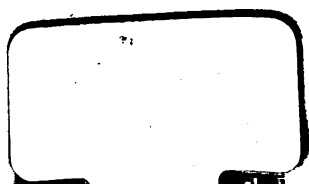
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DISCOVERY AND SETTLEMENT
OF
PORT PHILLIP;

BEING
A HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY NOW CALLED VICTORIA,
UP TO THE

ARRIVAL OF MR. SUPERINTENDENT LATROBE, IN OCTOBER, 1839.

*Henry Holmes
Melbourne 1871.*

By JAMES BONWICK;

AUTHOR OF

GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND; GRAMMAR FOR
AUSTRALIAN YOUTH, &c., &c.; AND COMPILER OF THE
GEOLOGICAL MAP OF VICTORIA.

REVISED, AT REQUEST, BY W. WESTGARTH, ESQ.,
Author of "Victoria, late Australia Felix," &c. &c.

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P R E F A C E .

IN presenting the first volume of a series on Australian Colonial History, the Author would claim the kind indulgence of the reader. The compilation of such a work was one of considerable difficulty. In the dearth of written authorities the materials had to be principally procured from oral testimony. Conscious of the liability to error in dependence upon such evidence, intelligent, conscientious and disinterested as it may be—collected from persons of both sexes, and of various stations and employments—he would claim forbearance for inadvertencies, and solicit corrections of mis-statements.

A residence of only fifteen years in these Colonies prevented the Author speaking from personal experience of the events of this present history; but an esteemed friendship with some of the Fathers of the Settlement, many years reading and study of facts connected with Port Phillip progress, together with a close and lengthened investigation of Early Times amidst the scenes about which he writes, have given him considerable advantages in the preparation of this book. The historian who does not personally figure in the story he describes may be supposed to be the more free from prejudice and bias.

The writer sincerely avows his honest desire to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, in the spirit of Christian candour and charity. In the discharge of such a duty he may occasionally appear to pass over the threshold of private life; but it must be remembered that the early history of an infant Colony embraces no narrative of bloody battles, or political contests, but is little more than a family record—men of humble name being the heroes of the drama.

The present work brings us down to the appointment of Mr. Latrobe as Superintendent, October 1st, 1839. At some early opportunity the second volume will be published, detailing the great prosperity and sudden decline of the youthful settlement,—the GOOD AND BAD TIMES OF PORT PHILLIP.

It was intended to have included a notice of the Aborigines in this volume; but so interesting a subject was found too extensive for so limited a space. Within a month, a Sketch of the Natives will appear, under the title of "The Wild White Man, and his Port Phillip Black Friends."

Most gratefully would the Author acknowledge the assistance of Old Colonists, the courtesy of Mr. Ridgeway of the Council Library, and the kindness of Mr. Westgarth in revising the work.

BOROONDARA BOARDING SCHOOL, NEAR MELBOURNE,
May 12th, 1856.

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CHAPTER I.

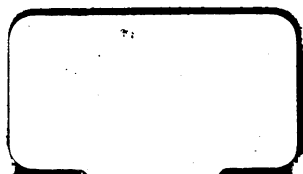
DISCOVERY OF PORT PHILLIP.

ON April 18, 1770, a vessel was straying through an unknown ocean. Impelled by a love of adventure and ambition for discovery, Captain Cook had dared the dangers of a long and novel voyage. He had visited the cannibal home of the Maories, and blessed it with new and nutritious articles of food. Sailing westward from New Zealand, the cry of "Land, land," arose on the above mentioned day. The fortunate man whose eye first rested on the shore received the honor of having the spot named after him. Point Hicks was the first land sighted by the English in Eastern Australia. It lay westward of Cape Howe, and; therefore, within the territory of Port Phillip, now Victoria.

Rounding Cape Howe, our navigator followed the coast, entered Botany Bay, named Port Jackson, reached Cape York, and took possession of the country in the name of his Sovereign George III., as the land of NEW SOUTH WALES. Upon his return home he strongly recommended the formation of a colony at Botany Bay. The government had lost the plantations of America to which they had heretofore shipped their convicts, and sold them to the settlers; they listened, then, to the tale of landscape beauty, delicious climate, prospective empire, and a distant world, and resolved upon a penal settlement on the New Holland shore.

Captain Arthur Phillip arrived at Botany Bay on January 18th., 1788. The "*Sirius*" and "*Supply*" brought 212 soldiers, 558 male prisoners, 228 female prisoners, 28 free married women, and 17 children. Preference being given to Port Jackson, the party removed thither four days after. On the lovely banks of this noble harbour a judicious site was selected for the camp, which was named after

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course was, against all precedent, detained for six years a prisoner of war by the French Governor of the Mauritius, the record of Baudin's voyage was published in France, with a claim to the discovery of nearly the whole southern coast of Australia. The Englishman's work, however, which was subsequently published, gave justice to Grant and himself.

When Captain Flinders left the "*Geographe*" in Encounter Bay, he steered to the eastward and entered Port Phillip Bay, April 26th, 1802, one month after Baudin, and ten weeks after Murray. At first he mistook the waters for those of Western Port. Going ashore, he ascended Arthur's Seat, and afterwards landed upon what he called *Indented Head*. He watered his ship from a small stream that ran over the beach from Arthur's Seat. His earliest intercourse with the *Indians* was a peaceful one. Three of them accepted some European presents and gave their weapons in exchange; this led the navigator to observe that "it would not be difficult to establish a friendly intercourse with the natives." After an excursion to Station Peak he writes, "reached the tent much fatigued, having walked more than twenty miles without finding a drop of water." The English sailor was much pleased with the country. In his report he says, "the sides of some of the hills and several of the vallies are fit for agricultural purposes;" though he adds that they were "better calculated for sheep." Elsewhere he writes; "Were a Settlement to be made at Port Phillip, as doubtless there will be some time hereafter, &c." When he arrived at Sydney, May 8th, he made such representations of the locality, as to induce the Governor to recommend the British Cabinet to establish a penal colony there.



CHAPTER II.

FIRST SETTLEMENT OF PORT PHILLIP.

The British Cabinet determined to form another settlement for their criminal exiles, at the place so favourably mentioned. Appointments at that period seem to have been judiciously made. The leader of the expedition, the Governor of the future colony, was not selected from among the frequenters of the court, the importunate but sycophantic place-hunters. David Collins, Esq., Colonel of the Marines, received the nomination. He was worthy of the position. He accompanied the first fleet to Sydney; had been Secretary to the first Governor; had inaugurated the new settlement; and, as Judge Advocate, had presided at the earliest Australian Law Court. More than this, he had just published a highly interesting account of the colony of New South Wales. Born in Ireland, 1756, the son of a general, he was present in the memorable conflict at Bunker's Hill. He there engaged in a struggle by which the British Crown lost its colonies in the western world. Years after he assisted in adding to that crown the brilliant jewels of the Southern Land.

The expedition was organized early in 1803. The "*Ocean*" transport, 500 tons, was to be accompanied by the "*Calcutta*" man of war, having 18 guns on the upper deck, rigged as a 56 gun ship, with a complement of 170 men. Her commander was Captain Daniel Woodriff, and first lieutenant Mr. J. H. Tuckey. Captain Mathews was in the "*Ocean*." The King's ship was ready at Portsmouth in February, but was not joined by her consort till April. We will now regard the voyagers themselves; a gloomy band, going against their will to an unknown shore. The hapless convicts contemplated no *El Dorado*. The news of the sufferings of their fellow criminals at Botany Bay, as it was then called, had reached the dens of vice at home, and spread terror amongst the evil-doers. The very officers of the expedition had no hopeful visions. The chaplain thus records his own feelings:—"On our departure it is natural to indulge the reflections which obtrude themselves upon those who are

to be the first settlers of Port Phillip. The land behind us is the abode of civilized people ; that before us, the residence of savages. When, if ever, we shall again enjoy an intercourse with the world, is doubtful and uncertain. We are leaving the civilized world behind us to enter upon a career unknown." Such were the dolorous sentiments of the early emigrants from Rome to our Father-land, as expressed by Virgil :---

But we, alas ! must leave our native land,
To pitch our tents on Afric's burning sand ;
Or sadder still ! on Britain's distant shore,
Ne'er to be seen or known of mankind more.

The prisoners on board were all males, 367 in number. Seventeen wives of the most respectable among them were allowed to accompany their partners ; one of these died on the passage. But the voyage was deemed too perilous, the transportation too full of horrors, to permit children to share their fate ; only seven little ones followed their fathers. One of these children, of whom we shall speak more hereafter, not only trod upon the new shore in 1803, but founded the first settlement on the Yarra Yarra in 1835, and now is an influential Member of the Council of Victoria. The military of the party consisted of the Lieutenant Governor in command, 2 First Lieutenants, 1 Second Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants, 3 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, and 39 Rank and File. Seven soldiers had their wives. The lieutenants were Messrs. Sladen, J. M. Johnson and Edward Lord. The civil establishment comprised the Governor, Colonel Collins ; the Chaplain, Rev. Robert Knopwood ; the Deputy Commissary General, Lt. Fosbrook ; the Surgeon Superintendent, Dr. E. Foord Bromley ; the Colonial Surgeon, Wm. Anson ; two Assistant Surgeons ; the Surveyor, G. Prideux Harris ; the Superintendents of Convicts, John Clarke and William Patterson ; and the Mineralogist, A. W. H. Humphreys. The Governor was to receive £480 a-year. The Chaplain and Surgeon had 10s. a-day. The Commissary, the Surveyor, and the Mineralogist had 7s. 6d. The Superintendents had £50 a-year, and two Overseers £25 each.

After six months sailing they saw New Holland on the eighth of October. The day after, they made King's Island. The historian of the expedition Lt. Tuckey, of the "*Calcutta*," then observes, "From the total want of information respecting the appearance of the land on this coast, we were doubtful as to our situation, and approached the shore with cautious diffidence." The Governor and Captain Woodriff

landed near the mouth of Port Phillip, on Seal Island. They returned with the news that there was a total want of fresh water, and the soil was so "extremely light and sandy as to deny all hopes of successful cultivation." On the 10th the Chaplain went on shore, and was by no means satisfied with the country. Again was a search made for fresh water by the Governor, Captain and First Lieutenant, and again were they to meet with disappointment. The Surgeon examined the shore on the 12th, and found that water fit for use might be obtained by sinking in the sand near the sea. Holes were made, and casks placed to receive the drainage. The site chosen for the settlement was the eastern shore of Port Phillip, about 8 miles from the Heads. The whole party landed on the 16th instant. They were indeed disheartened and disappointed; for, says Tuckey, "The external appearance of the country flattered us into the most delusive dreams of fruitfulness and plenty."

To remain in this desolate and barren region was not to be thought of. The launch and cutter were fitted out under the command of Lieutenant Tuckey, to survey the shore, and find, if possible, a more eligible situation. Some water was found, but the exploration was incomplete and unsatisfactory. The writer apologizes for not examining the northern extremity of the Bay by reason of the shortness of time and the badness of the weather. Of one place he tells us, "the bed of this stream is covered with foliaceous mica, which our people at first conceived to be gold dust, and thence expected they had discovered an *EL SATÉDORADO*." Little did those who turned their backs upon such a Colony think of a time when it would become the Ophir of the world. It is curious that a gold mania beset the first settlers of Port Jackson. A prisoner came one day to the camp and reported gold. The officers went to the spot, and there among the sand sparkled some yellow grains. Demanding a reward for his discovery, suspicion was aroused. He was seized, placed in confinement, and threatened with severe punishment if he would not disclose the trick. He then confessed that he had stolen a guinea, and cutting it and some brass buttons into small pieces, he strewed them on the soil. Twenty-five lashes were administered as a reward for his auriferous invention.

Upon this boat excursion our party came in contact with the aborigines. A mob of 200 surrounded them, at the north-west side of the point. The women were in the back-ground. The men wore necklaces of reeds and head dresses of swan's feathers. Their faces

were painted, and a reed or bone was thrust through the septum of their nostrils. Uncouth drawings of human dancing figures were described appearing on their skin cloaks. The traveller had so mean an opinion of their prowess, as to believe that the kangaroo would be wholly out of the reach of their weapons or their ingenuity. At first they were civil enough; the sailors, of course, treated them with some grog; but the tasteless barbarians had the ill-manners to spit it out again with shaking heads and wry faces. Some approached the boat and extracted a tomahawk, an axe, and a saw. Upon some warm expostulation, a small party at a little distance were cut off from the rest, and W. Harris, the master's mate, carried off in a blackfellow's arms. The lieutenant came up and fired over their heads. They hastily fled. Rallying, talking, examining, and finding no one injured by the awful sound of the gun, they advanced again down the hill. A tall chieftain, a most courageous fellow, came up alone to the tent with fierce gesticulations, and shaking his large war spear at the white intruders. The English officer admired his bravery, laid down his gun, stretched out his arms, and walked towards him. But the dark mass on the hill were still seen descending, flourishing their weapons. Tuckey called upon the chief to keep them back. The savage ordered his countrymen to stop; they misunderstood his appeal, or disregarded his authority. In self-defence, then, the seamen fired at the foremost of the tribe; he fell dead instantly, and the chief and his men were quickly out of sight. In the Rev. R. Knopwood's Journal we have allusion to this scene. "Had not Lieutenant Tuckey fortunately come up with his boat," says he, "there is no doubt they would have killed Mr. Gammon and Mr. Harris, and their two men, and perhaps have eaten them, for there is great reason to believe they are cannibals." Although Lieutenant Tuckey has so little to report in his work upon the subject of water on this trip, the journal of the clergyman contains two references of interest. "Oct. 21—He (Tuckey) reported having landed at several places, and found the soil bad, the trees very small, and but little water. Oct. 22—Lieutenant Tuckey has found a fresh water river more to the north-east side of the Bay." •

All this while they at the settlement were not idle. The evidences of civilization so struck the imaginative and romantic sailor writer, that he exclaims, "The last hymn of the feathered choristers to the sun, and the soft murmurs of the breeze, faintly broke the death-like silence that reigned around; while the lightly trodden path of the

solitary savage, or the dead ashes of his fire, alone pointed out the existence of human beings. In the course of a few weeks the scene was greatly altered: lanes were cut in the woods for the passage of the timber carriages; the huts of the woodmen were erected beneath the sheltering branches of the lofty trees; the busy hum of their voices, the sound of their axes, reverberating through the woods, denoted the exertions of social industry and the labors of civilization. It was not till the 24th of October that the convicts were placed in gangs for work. The day before that, Sunday, the minister's journal mentions: "Divine Service performed before all hands." It is to be regretted that moral agencies were not sufficiently regarded in those days. The shameful example of the officers, the unaccountable neglect of somewhat equalizing the sexes, the removal from refining and ameliorating influences, and the recklessness engendered by their very position, told sadly enough upon such a criminal population. It was to the disgrace of New South Wales that years passed before the erection of a church; and this, at last, was raised at the private expense of the clergyman. Respecting the Rev. Robert Knopwood, Mr. West, the talented author of the *History of Tasmania*, makes the following observation as to his career in Van Diemen's Land; "In addition," says he, "to his clerical functions, he regularly sat as magistrate. He had not much time to care for the spiritual interests of his flock, and of his success in their reformation nothing is recorded; his convivial friends are the chief eulogists of his character." Many amusing tales are told of this really kind-hearted but careless theologian; or, of "Old Bobby," as he was jocosely and rather profanely called by the Old Hands.

The annals of our infant settlement record the attempt of some to escape from bondage, either to gain the Botany Bay quarter, or the land of China. Eight were missing within a month of their arrival, though five were brought back and punished. Three never returned. Among the bolters from the camp at various times, one only lived to see the white man's return thirty years after; this was Buckley, who was prisoner servant to Governor Collins. Among other domestic news, we learn that on November 14th the first Kangaroo was killed, weighing 68 lbs. The first burial, that of the cook of the "*Calcutta*," took place on the 16th. The first birth was that of the son of Serjeant Thomas on the 25th. The first christening was held on Christmas day, when the aforesaid child received the name of Hobart from his godfather, the kind governor, after Lord Hobart.

Secretary of State. Fears being entertained of an insurrection among the convicts, Collins ordered the civil establishment to form themselves into a night patrol. On the 7th of January, the military and all the officers of the association, with their servants, turning out at the beat of the drum in full muster; when each man received a brace of pistols, four rounds of cartridge, 1 lb. of bread, and, to sustain their courage, one half-pint of spirits. So formidable an exhibition of loyalty and valour was sufficient; there was no further demonstration of insubordination. It was not until November 17th that the inauguration of the Governor took place. The Rev. R. Knopwood thus notices the occasion:—"The Lieutenant Governor's commission was read by me as the Chaplain of the Colony: when that was done, the military fired three volleys, and all gave three cheers for His Honor." We doubt not the heartiness of the rejoicing, for Colonel Collins had a cheerful and social disposition that endeared him to many, and caused his name, with all his faults, to be handed down in colonial history, as "the Friend and the Father of all." That does not appear to have been the age of Excellencies as Governors. It was in a sudden fit of enthusiasm, begotten, perhaps, in the shouts of applauding spectators on the memorable 17th, or after his return from the hospitable board of the first Governor's ball, that our worthy historian Tuckey, bursts out into the following rhapsody:—"The thoughts naturally led to the contemplation of future possibilities. I beheld a second Rome, rising from a coalition of banditti. I beheld it giving laws to the world, and superlative in arms and in arts, looking down with proud superiority upon the barbarous nations of the northern hemisphere."

This pretty dream was not realized. The interesting banditti were not to coalesce to form a Second Rome at Port Phillip. All attempts to give a convict origin to this Colony have failed. Tuckey's banditti were destined to go elsewhere, and the account of their re-emigration will form the next chapter.



CHAPTER III.

ABANDONMENT OF THE COLONY OF PORT PHILLIP.

England has not been uniformly happy in the selection of her settlements. Most have been the result of private enterprize ; these have been uniformly successful. Government establishments in other lands have not always been fortunate. Two attempts were made to colonize Van Diemen's Land, without success. Both settlements lingered amidst drought and barrenness, and were abandoned. Even the first attempt in New South Wales was a failure ; Botany Bay was abandoned. Three trials were made on the northern coast of Australia ; the places were abandoned. The last venture in government colony making was at Port Curtis. After a sojourn of five weeks and an expenditure of £15,000, Governor Barney abandoned the new colony, for the same reasons assigned for the other abandonments,---want of water. In these cases, a little common sense, the exercise of a trifling amount of energy, would have obviated the difficulty. At Risdon, York Town, Botany Bay, and Port Curtis, the removal of a few miles brought the settlers to plenty of water and good soil. So was it with Port Phillip. Unluckily pitching upon the most repulsive part of our coast, and not possessed of the indomitable will and enterprize of our exploring bushmen, the founders of the new settlement were disheartened, and beat a retreat.

A slander is propagated concerning our friend Collins, which it is necessary to consider. It has been declared, that, as he had full powers to establish himself where he thought proper, and was allowed the sum of £500 compensation for his personal outlay, in case he chose to remove his establishment, he for filthy lucre sake maligned the character of our country, and abandoned the locality. But we think there is sufficient evidence to show that such a case cannot be made out. The concurrent testimony of so many as to the unsuitability of Port Phillip forbids the belief of a conspiracy against the place merely to enable the governor to get £500. The prejudices, if such, began on the first day of landing, and the sentiment of dis-

appointment was held in common. We, that live in the colony, and know something of the sterility and heartlessness of the neighbourhood of the first settlement, and the anti-land excursion propensities of a company of mere sailors and marines, are not surprised at the opinion they formed, and the resolution they adopted. It is true that David Gibson, the returned runaway, brought tidings of the Yarra Yarra; but the officers might not feel disposed to trust his information. At any rate, there was such indecision that Colonel Collins resolved to lay the matter before Governor King at Port Jackson. Despatches were forwarded by a boat. The "*Ocean's*" time of charter having expired, she left the settlement for China on November 17th. On her way, she caught up to the six oared cutter, and took the people on board. Captain King sympathized with the report of the Lieutenant Governor, but sent down Mr. Surveyor-General Grimes to report upon the place.

In the meanwhile three expeditions were undertaken. A boat was sent across the Strait to Port Dalrymple, the mouth of the Tamar of Launceston. The barren, waterless shore produce an unfavorable report. Another boat was sent to Risdon on the Derwent. A party had been sent down from Sydney under Lieutenant Bowen some five months before. Of course they were on the wrong side of the river, upon a barren shore, and destitute of water. Yet the country was so promising that Mr. Collins thought it the best of the three miserable localities. As Mr. Bass had spoken highly of Western Port, an overland party set out under the historian Lieutenant Tuckey, on the 9th of December. He and his fourteen men suffered considerably, walking over the sand, crossing the swamps, and penetrating the tangled bush. They only examined a few miles of the western side of the Bay. Two misfortunes befell the adventurers. The convict bearer of the bread took an opportunity of abandoning the party for the solitary enjoyment of the pic-nic. "Several of our party who carried the water," writes the unhappy leader, "being unable to bear the fatigue any longer, we were obliged to give up our intention." Six days were spent in this trip. The coal said to be seen in Western Port was not observed on this occasion; it was the wrong side of the Bay. Returning, Tuckey sowed about the bush seeds of oranges, limes, melons, Indian corn, and garden seeds.

Upon the arrival of the "*Ocean*" at Sydney, the Governor of New South Wales entered into a fresh contract with the Captain, to remain four months longer, and the vessel was sent back to Mr. Collins

to await his orders. There is some confusion in the respective accounts of the chaplain and the Lieutenant. The former in his diary has the following entries :—

November 6. Mr. Collins with six men in a large boat to Port Jackson.

November 17. The Governor's commission was read &c, "*Ocean*" cleared out.

December 12. Return of "*Ocean*," engaged for 4 months more. The "*Ocean*" and "*Lady Nelson*" which had sailed on the 28th November, was to remove us there (Van Diemen's Land) or to any other place Governor Collins might think proper." Tuckey tells us about the boat being picked up by the "*Ocean*." He afterwards adds, "Governor King, from a correct survey of Port Philip, made by Mr. Grimes, the Surveyor-General of the Colony, was already convinced of its unsuitability for a settlement, and immediately chartered the "*Ocean*" to remove the establishment, either to Port Dalrymple or the river Derwent." Bent, the father of the Tasmanian Press, has this version in his own almanac for 1829; "Governor Collins, soon after his arrival at Port Phillip, saw the impracticability of colonizing that place, in consequence of the great want of water, and immediately despatched an open boat to Sydney, with an application to Governor King, for instructions how to proceed, and stating the incapacities of Port Philip for the formation of a second Colony." Mr. Westgarth concurs in the opinion of the truthfulness of the reason assigning for the abandonment of the coast. Certain it is that the report of the Surveyor was also unfavorable, although, according to Mr. Arden, Mr. Grimes saw neither the Yarra nor the Salt water River. One thing is pretty certain that as the "*Calcutta*" left the Bay for Sydney on December 13th, or 18th, according to Mr. Knopwood, the colouring of the officers of that ship would still further confirm the mind of the Governor. Indeed it is stated that "the unfavorable account given of Port Phillip by the first Lieutenant of the "*Calcutta*," presented the necessity of removing the Colony to a more eligible situation." The testimony of the rattling mate of the "*Lady Nelson*," the adventurous, Dane Jorgenson, is of no small importance, as he assisted in removing the people, and as he was hardly likely to be influenced or bribed by Colonel Collins, especially as his notice of the transaction was not published for thirty years after. The Danish sailor described the trip of his government craft to take Captain Bowen of the Marines, to form the settlement at Risdon, on the Der-

went, he then mentions the orders his Lieutenant Simmonds had received, to sail the "*Lady Nelson*" across to Port Philip. This leads him to remark of the place, "Where Colonel Collins of the marines had in vain attempted to form a settlement. The arid, infertile nature of the soil, with a distressing scarcity of water, had made the abandonment of that station inevitable."

Preparations were made for departure to the Derwent River of Tasmania. Uncertain of their future fate, six more convicts escaped two days after Christmas. Buckley is supposed to have gone on that excursion. The "*Ann*" arrived from Port Jackson with despatches from Capt. King, on January 20th, 1804, and the "*Lady Nelson*," arrived the following day. On the 24th one hundred convicts were put on board the "*Ocean*," which however, did not arrive at the Derwent till February 16th. The Governor and his officers embarked on the "*Lady Nelson*," January, 25th; our literary mate describes them as a merry lot. Several trips were taken before all were assembled in the beautiful Island of Tasmania, in the township of Hobart Town. Thus was Port Phillip abandoned. In the romantic language of our poetical sailor historian, "The Kangaroo seems to reign undisturbed lord of the soil; in dominion which, by the evacuation of Port Phillip, he is likely to retain for ages." We may here mention the subsequent adventures of the worthy writer. The "*Calcutta*" cleared out for England in the year 1805; while conveying some Merchantmen to St. Helena, she was captured by the French—the Captain was soon exchanged, but Lt. Tuckey remained as prisoner, until after the fall of Napoleon. Lieut. Tuckey was subsequently sent on an expedition to the pestiferous banks of the Zaire, in Africa, when he and most of his men perished. Colonel Collins ruled in his new territory for six years. He was a bad disciplinarian. His own moral delinquencies, and love of the festive board indisposed him to scrutinize closely the conduct of others. On the 24th of March, 1810, according to the Rev. John West, "He died while sitting in his chair, conversing with his attendant." This authority will be sufficient to repel the slander that he committed suicide. The delapidated condition of his grave induced the Tasmanian Sailor-Governor, Sir John Franklin, to erect a handsome monument in 1838, over the remains of the founder of two Australian Colonies.

The abandonment of Port Phillip might almost have been predicted from the materials of which the Colony was formed. They were not even capacitated to contend with practical difficulties. Lord Bacon

has well observed, "The people wherewith you plant on Plantations, ought to be gardeners, ploughmen, laborers, smiths, carpenters, joiners, fishermen, fowlers, with some few apothecaries, surgeons, cooks, and bakers." But on the "*Calcutta*," there were among all, eight carpenters, three smiths, one gardener, two fishermen, nine tailors, and four masons. While some regretted the want of proper appliances to form the Colony, and the great majority congratulated themselves upon their removal from the sandy shore, we have the testimony of one, and that a lady, so favourable to the character of the much condemned place, that we are most happy to record it. Mrs. Hartley, or rather Hopley, the wife of one of the officers, thus writes to her sister in England. "We arrived," she observed, "in October, 1803. My pen is not able to describe half the beauties of that delightful spot; we were four months there. Much to my mortification as well as loss, we were obliged to abandon the Settlement, through the whim and caprice of the Lieutenant-Governor. Additional expense to Government, and additional loss of individuals were incurred by removing to Van Diemen's Land, which can never be made to answer. Port Phillip is my favourite, and has my warmest wishes. During the time we were there, I never felt one ache or pain, and I parted with it with more regret than I did my native land." Bravo! A blessing on the gentle being that would, in Woman's nature, say a kind word for the slandered and despised. Had the men been disposed as she in her happy disposition to look on the bright side, the Colony would not have been abandoned. But the intentions of Providence are beyond our ken. It was the will of the Wise One that Port Phillip should not have a convict origin; and it was not until many years after that free people ventured out to the wilds of Australia. At the proper time we find that circumstances favoured the successful colonization of Port Phillip.



CHAPTER IV.

FURTHER DISCOVERIES IN THE COUNTRY.

At the earliest colonial period, the islands of Bass's Strait became the resort of sealers and fowlers. These rovers, most of them runaway convicts, lived an adventurous, hazardous, and semi-savage life, never visiting civilised regions, excepting to dispose of their oil, skins, and mutton-bird feathers, and to procure necessary stores, and the means of gratifying their sensual appetites. In their hunting migrations, their whale-boats often sought the harbours of Port Phillip, or were driven by the southern tempest on its sandy shore. But tempted by no desire for agriculture, and impelled by no curiosity for discovery, these wild men of the isles saw little of the interior. Another cause prevented an examination of the country. Many of them had by artful intrigue or daring violence possessed themselves of wives from the native tribes : and the remembrance of wrongs, and lust for revenge, were not unknown to dwell in the breasts of husbands and fathers in the forest. It was well, therefore, that the white marauders should not approach too near the dark injured Sabines. The interior was thus a sealed book. In 1817, Mr. Surveyor-General Oxley made some important discoveries westward of Sydney. Arriving at the Lachlan river, he followed down its sterile and monotonous banks till the stream disappeared in a vast spreading marsh. He was thoroughly dispirited with his journey. He thus evidences his conviction of the wretched hopelessness of the region, afterwards recognised as Port Phillip, the Happy Australia of Major Mitchell. "We had demonstrated," writes Oxley, "beyond a doubt, that no river could fall into the sea between Cape Otway and Spencer's Gulf, or at least, none deriving its waters from the eastern coast ; and that the country south of the parallel of 34 degrees and west of 147½ degrees was uninhabitable and useless for all the purposes of civilized men."

HUME AND HOVELL'S OVERLAND TRIP.

That eccentric governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane, who prophesied droughts and bad seasons, conceived the notion of a singular system of exploration. He proposed landing a number of convicts on the southern coast, giving them provisions, and leaving them to work their way home Sydneyward. Those that survived and returned were to receive their freedom and a grant of land. Subsequently he thought it better that they should have an experienced leader. Mr. Hamilton Hume was then a renowned bushman. Born in the Colony, he had from his youth been accustomed to roam in the country; he had accompanied Oxley on one of his trips, and Meehan the surveyor on another. He had been the first to open up the Berrima country; to him the appointment of the present expedition was offered. He objected to the plan, and suggested that the course should be downward, from lake George to Western Port. Mr. Hovell, formerly the captain of a merchantman, requested leave to accompany him. Negotiations with government were vexatiously prolonged. Hume was disgusted with the delay, and resolved to make the journey on his own account. Hovell and he were squatters, and it was of consequence to them to discover new and better pastures. To raise funds, Mr. Hume had to dispose of a land order for 1200 acres. Though apparently a partnership, each gentleman from the first made his own private arrangements. Each took his pack, saddle, horses, tarpaulin, a cart, and a skeleton map, besides selecting his own men. They had but one thing in common, a tent. The companions of Captain Hovell were Thomas Boyd, William Bollard, and Thomas Smith; those of Mr. Hume's were Claude Bossawa, Henry Angel, and James Fitzpatrick. Hovell took with him a perambulator to measure distances.

They left civilization at Yass, Oct. 19, 1824. The Murrumbidgee was crossed with some difficulty. With the aid of tarpaulins the carts were converted into punts. The absurdity of having two leaders, and those not the most pliant of men, soon became conspicuous. Their first quarrel was over the frying-pan. We are not informed whether it had a double handle, but we are assured that so fiery was the discussion, and so vigorous the contest of will, that the poor frying-pan, to settle the difference, separated into two portions, each gentleman retaining a part. Not long after a dispute arose as to the course,—one would go more easterly, the other westerly. Neither

would give way, and so they separated. The captain was either the less obstinate or the more mistrustful of his bush powers, as he contrived to wheel round into the track of the other, and a sulky reconciliation took place. After leaving the river they journeyed four days west south-west. Their carts were a great nuisance in so impracticable a country as that in which they found themselves, and they were, therefore, abandoned in a creek. For seventy miles these travellers penetrated a very rough district, and then sighted the majestic Snowy Alps. This was the first great reward for their toil. Entangled among the hilly spurs, they turned a little westward, and after eighty miles approached a rapid stream. This was called the Hume, after the father of the explorer, and which was subsequently shown to be the head waters of Sturt's Murray. It was crossed above the junction of the Mitta Mitta, near Albury, on November 16th. When upon the brink of that Alpine tributary of the Murray, another contention arose; Hume would cross the river, Hovell would not. Separation ensued as before; and, as before, Hovell fell again into the ranks. Thirty miles brought the party to a river named the Ovens, after the Governor's secretary. A southward course of 110 miles conducted them to a beautiful water channel, called the Hovell or Twisden, now the Goulburn. Beset among the scrubby gullies of our Dividing Chain, they were driven to the westward in the neighbourhood of a hill, which thence received the name of Disappointment. A noble mount came in view, and was called Westworth, after the celebrated Sydney orator and politician. A dozen years after it was re-discovered and ascended by Major Mitchell, and by him distinguished as Mount Macedon. Messrs. Hume and Hovell crossed the Dividing Range near the Big Hill, December 13th. Three days after they were by the sea side. The natives told them the waters were called *Geelong*. Then a noise was heard like distant cannon, and the blacks gave them to understand that a ship had visited the Bay.

Thus far the journey had been successfully performed. They had, for the first time, crossed the territory of Port Phillip, and had reached the southern waters. But there arose another question of strife. What was that Bay? Hovell was sure it was Western Port; Hume was as sure it was Port Phillip. A lively altercation took place to the disgust of their followers. Hume elsewhere tells us his reasons for asserting the native *Geelong* to be a part of Port Phillip. Before his departure on this expedition he had received some instructions from

his former bush companion, the surveyor Meehan. That gentleman had been with Mr. Grimes in the examination of Port Phillip Bay in 1803. He explained then to Hume the difference between the two to be simply this,—Western Port contained two large islands, Port Phillip none. Hume saw no land dotting the bosom of the great inland sea before him, and was convinced that it could be only Port Phillip. However, their squabbling gave way to the consideration of returning home. There remained of their provisions 150 lbs. of flour, 6 lbs. of tea, no sugar and no salt. Crossing the Arndell, now the Werribee, they came upon their old track, and with a little deviation to the westward they rapidly progressed to the Murray, and regained their New South Wales homes. The governor acknowledged their services by a grant to each of 1200 acres of land.

SETTLEMENT OF WESTERN PORT.

Although excellent soil had been discovered, almost boundless plains for pasture, yet the difficult approach, from scrub and rocks, forbade the hope of conducting the flocks of New South Wales across thence. We know that the two explorers might have avoided the difficulties of their route by going more to the westward, and keeping out of the fearful Alpine country. Still the good Geelong land was worth looking after, and might be reached by sea though not overland. The report of Captain Hovell received most favor from the governor, and a settlement was resolved upon, of course, at the supposed Western Port. At this period most romantic visions of beauty and fertility were associated with Western Port. A Hobart Town paper of May 20th, 1826, speaks of it as “a country the finest ever seen.” It reported that “large farms might be cultivated;”—that “fresh water lagoons lie scattered on the enviable expanse.” It was also rumoured that there existed a valuable river—and “The mouth of this river is about thirty miles wide.” This colony was indeed the land of enigmas. Parts clothed with verdure were found beds of sand. Districts flowing with milk and honey were discovered to be pestiferous swamps, or waterless wastes. Rivers with mouths thirty miles wide, sites for farms, and an enviable expanse disappear on approach, like the delusive mirage. On the other hand, the blighted land, the desert realm, the abandoned, because worthless site, are converted, as it were by the magician’s wand, into savannahs of luxuriance, parks of loveliness, and scenes of romantic beauty. First appearances are

often deceptive. Expectations may be rashly formed, allusions hastily expressed, and judgment precipitate. However, a settlement was established under the commandant Captain Wright, consisting of some convicts and a few soldiers. Captain Hovell, the guide, failed to discover the El Dorado of Geelong. Pitching their tents on the eastern side of the Port, about a mile north of the Red Point, and not far from the site of the present township of Corinella, the new settlers attempted to bring the wilderness into a garden. They soon discovered the utter unsuitability of the place. The colonies in those days were like the colonies of the autocrat of Russia; persons were taken to a spot, commanded to bring it into tillage; and, however objectionable, to remain there until orders came for removal. Luckily for the soldier officers and convict overseers, the Home Government disliked the increase of locations, and recommended centralization. The party were, therefore, instantly to return to Sydney. They departed, leaving stacks of bricks ready for burning, and houses partially erected. All quitted the Port in December the same year, 1826, and the gloom and mystery of the Port Phillip district were greater than ever. Hovell had objected to his travelling companion accompanying him to the new settlement, and we are pretty certain that the other had no lamentations over the failure. Hume published his version of the overland story in the Sydney Herald of 1833. It was with no small pride he afterwards referred to the result of that publication. "My letters," said he, "attracted the attention of the Van Diemen's Land settlers, who, acting upon it, went over, and, finding my statement of the nature of the country around Port Phillip correct, effected the first successful settlement at Hobson's Bay."

CAPTAIN STURT ON THE MURRAY.

We now approach an important and interesting epoch of our history, —the discovery of the course and embouchure of the Murray river by Captain Charles Sturt, in 1830. That gentleman was attached to the 39th regiment in Sydney, when a season of long continued drought afforded an opportunity of determining the nature of that Inland Sea, supposed to have been seen by Mr. Oxley, the former Surveyor-General, in 1818, and into the reedy margin of which he had traced the Macquarie. The reflecting officer ventured to doubt the existence of that physical feature, and obtained permission from governor Darling to

attempt the passage through the marsh. He then engaged the able services of our distinguished bushman, Mr. Hume. However energetic his display of will, he had no collision with the brave and gentle Sturt. That eminent explorer, who revealed one colony and discovered the most important rivers of two others, has exhibited that fearlessness of danger, that love of enterprise, and that benevolence of disposition which have no less endeared him to the savage men of the forest than to his own admiring countrymen. Few men in their passage through life have enjoyed more real happiness. To the pleasures of a widely spread and affectionate friendship, he added the charms of one of the most joyous and lovely of homes. Long may the worthy veteran live to enjoy the pension awarded him by the colonists of South Australia!

Accompanied by Hume, he left Sydney in November, 1828, penetrated the marshes of the Macquarie, dissolved the chimera of the Inland Sea, and followed its stream northward to a river which he named after General Darling. In November the following year he became connected with Port Phillip Story. With his friend Mr. McLeay, the Naturalist, and six men he set out to examine the Murrumbidgee. Finding his whaleboat insufficient, he constructed a skiff to carry some of the provisions, and which was attached to the other boat by a rope. But meeting with accidents from snags it was abandoned; through one upset of the skiff the salt provisions were spoiled. It was Sturt's rule to row from sunrise to 5 o'clock. Each night the party slept on shore. On one occasion the blacks came stealthily down, and relieved them of their fryingpan, their cutlasses and five tomahawks. They might have fallen victims another time through the fascination of native beauty. Some women stood on the river bank displaying their charms, and with syren words and gestures tempting them to land. But, in the distant scrub, behind these loving allurings, were certain bushy beards and spear points, which completely neutralized the softer emotions, if any existed, in the breasts of the white men. Passing a flat country of reeds, they were suddenly carried into a noble stream above 300 feet wide. This was named the Murray, after Sir George, the secretary for the colonies. When it was subsequently ascertained that Hume's river Hume was identical with Sturt's Murray, the captain referred to it in these straight forward terms: "I by no means wish to take away from the credit of another, much less from that of Mr. Hume, whose superior talents as an explorer I have ever been ready to admit. When I named the Murray,

I was in a great measure ignorant of the other rivers with which it was connected; but if my knowledge then had been as extensive as it now is, I should still have considered myself justified in adopting the usage of other travellers, and giving a name to that river, down which and up which I have toiled more than 2000 miles." One day at their halt, they received a visit from a number of aborigines. Sturt's benevolent smile gained their confidence, and his presents their friendship. Mr. McLeay made himself very popular by singing songs to them. They would have it that he was their returned friend Rundi, and wanted him to strip and show his side that they might see the wound of which he had died. Four of their number accompanied the party for awhile. Shortly after, as the bark, with colours flying, was gliding down the stream, the Englishmen were paralyzed at the sight of some hundreds of natives on the heights above them, with their spears uplifted, and fiercely gesticulating threats of defiance of the intruders, and revenge for their invasion. At this awful moment of danger there was a sudden diversion of hostile intention. Sturt's native friends had rushed forward to the rescue. They told their tale of the white man's gentleness and goodness. The dark roamers of the Murray were not without sympathy for these noble qualities. The spears were lowered, the warlike glance was turned. The splash of the oars continued, and the flag of England received a mute, an astonished, a respectful gaze. This was not the only time in which our worthy explorer owed his safety to his benevolence. Proudly did he once say to the writer of this narrative, "Thank God, although I have mixed with strange Blackfellows more than any man, I have never caused the death of one."

On they sped along the flowing waters. At length a large river from the north mysteriously glided into the Murray. Sturt turned the helm, and met the new current. He conjectured rightly enough it would prove to be the mouth of his old acquaintance, the Darling. Hundreds of natives lined the rocky banks. A few miles brought the boat to a bend, across which was a weir. Instead of breaking the net and pursuing his course upwards, he relinquished his route, merely observing, that he could not disappoint the Blacks of their food that day. Unfurling the Union Jack, and giving three cheers, they descended the stream. The loquacious and curious spectators were hushed at the sight of that flag and the echo of those voices; and, when they understood the considerate kindness of their strange visit-

ants, they expressed their pleasure by loud and cheerful shouts. A small creek ran into the main stream, and was called Rufus, from the red hair of the worthy McLeay. The clay banks were passed. The sides became loftier and steeper. The fossiliferous limestone walls threw their deep shade upon the voyagers. Dark bodies constantly flitted about, but no molestation was attempted. Our leader began to think he was nearing the coast. Interrogating an old man by signs, he received for reply the pointing of the hand toward the south, and a capital imitation of the roaring of the seas, and the tossing of mighty waves. Sea gulls now gladdened the eyes of the boatmen. They wanted to fire on them, as the wild fowl were few, the salt meat was spoiled, and the flour diminishing; but the kind hearted captain would not allow a shot to reach these harbingers of good tidings. The river now expanded into the vast, shallow lake, which received the appellation of Alexandrina, after the Princess Alexandrina Victoria, now the beloved sovereign of England, and Queen of Hearts in Australia.

What were they to do? Before them was the surf of the southern Ocean; on their left, a sea of heartless scrub; to the right, some mountain range; behind them, the long and toilsome pull. They walked to the entrance of the channel. Even were the whale boat to cross the sandy barrier, could they hope in their present condition to weather that boisterous tumult, and gain a civilized place of refuge, when the nearest, at Launceston, was 500 miles away? To return overland was impossible. The western hills by the Gulf of St. Vincent were very attractive. Sturt longed to reach them. He prophesied fertile vallies and laughing plains. But the inhabitants might be numerous and vindictive; for he well knew the marvellous and unaccountable difference of tribes, and the fickleness of these children of nature. Though brave, he was not rash; the lives of others were confided to his care. There remained but one course,—to return the way he came. With failing provisions, sore eyes, fatigued arms, an opposing current, and a thousand miles pull in prospect, they pointed their prow homeward. Although they had escaped the perils of attack before, they could not rely upon the savages. Some unforeseen circumstance, some unfortunate misconstruction of their conduct, some sudden impulse of a treacherous chief, might riddle them with jagged spears, and the proud flag of Britain, in tattered shreds, bedeck the brows of vain and nude barbarians. Even now, on the borders of the lake, the yell of a blood-thirsty tribe reached them across the water. And when, for a moment

the boat struck, and the prey seemed within grasp, their shouts of satisfaction bode no good omen. But the little vessel was soon struggling again with the rapids. Wearily enough did they pass the sterile country, the almost interminable realm of Mallee scrub. Becoming faint with shortened allowance, the limbs of the sturdy explorers waxed weaker and weaker. Their sunken, glassy eye, and listless expression told the tale of hunger. The ravings of some indicated loss of intellect. But there was no reproach for their leader. So tender was their regard, that even in the selfishness of starvation the men agreed not to touch the last remaining luxury,—six pounds of sugar; that was to be the portion of the kind captain. Often when the palsied arm dropped the oar, and the aching back tired of labor, the cheerful voice of the courageous Sturt would tell them of the dangers they had passed, the approach of their Depot, the heroism of their life. The sympathy thus expressed, the encouragement thus given, would brighten the dull eye, bring a smile on the pallid cheek, and tighten the grasp by the blistered hand. The cliffs recede, the Darling is in the rear, the Murrumbidgee is before them, the Depot is gained. In the seventy-seven days they had pulled two thousand miles. Well indeed might the gallant Napier exclaim, “It is impossible to read the account of captain Sturt’s expedition down the Murray, without feeling much admiration for our countryman and his companions; who, casting themselves upon a great river, with little besides their courage to sustain their efforts, allowed the stream to bear them, reckless and resolved, into the heart of the desert; an intrepid enterprise! unanimated by the glory of battle, yet accompanied by the hardships of a campaign—without splendour, and without reward.” It is unnecessary to add that the immediate consequence of this great discovery was, the exploration of Sturt’s ranges by the gulf, and the subsequent colonization of South Australia.

MAJOR MITCHELL’S AUSTRALIA FELIX.

But the most effective exploration of this country was by Major Mitchell, afterwards Sir Thomas Livingstone Mitchell, Surveyor-General of New South Wales, an enthusiastic admirer of the Australian wilds, and one ardently engaged in developing the resources of his adopted country. As a parent, a citizen, a gentleman, a scholar, he has embalmed his memory alike in the archives of philosophy, the annals of colonial history, the hearts of friends, and the sanctity of home. From

his first expedition in 1831 down the Peel to the Karaula, he has been identified as the most scientific of Australian explorers. In October, 1854, at the age of 63 years, he departed to that "undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns."

In March, 1836, Major Mitchell left Sydney on his third expedition, having an excellent outfit and twenty five men, most of whom were convicts. He preferred such followers, as they were more subject to control, and disposed to behave well in order to procure indulgence. Mr. Stapylton was his assistant, and Piper and Barney his aboriginal attendants. The instructions he received were to trace the further course of the conjectured Darling from its junction with Sturt's Murray. He succeeded in tracking out the Lachlan river through the Marshes, and found it joining the grassy, flowing Murrumbidgee. The Lachlan was merely a lot of pools. The travellers were frequently all day without seeing water; once they went 120 miles without perceiving any. Barney so grossly committed himself, as to compel the Major to send him back again. Falling in with a new tribe, he had been much struck with some ebon fair one, who had rewarded his friendly gaze with smiles. His heart was moved, and he must obtain her for his wife. So lost was he to all notions of propriety, as absolutely to propose firing upon the tribe, that he might frighten away the men and secure the Helen of his affections. Leaving the Murrumbidgee, Mitchell came upon the Murray, near the junction in the month of June. On the 27th of May his party had a conflict with the natives near Benanee lake. They kept up their firing for a quarter of an hour, and killed several. He went on to the Darling, trod its arid red sand, and was repelled by its densely scrubby banks. It was a dry season, for he was able to step dry shod over this great drainer of New South Wales. The map was found to indicate its position one degree too much to the westward.

Now commenced the Port Phillip discovery. The major journeyed up the southern side of the Murray, until he fell in with a stream from the south, uniting with the father river near a small hill, which he called Swan Hill. He supposed it to be the Twisden or Hovell of Hume, now the Goulburn. This was a mistake; it was the Loddon. He stood upon the granitic Mount Hope on June 28th, and gazed upon promising plains; "a land so inviting and yet without inhabitants." Three days after he discovered the Yarra; and a week thence, the Loddon, in lat. $36\frac{1}{2}$ deg., though these two were found to be the same

stream. Constructing a bridge to cross over in the early morning, he noticed that a flood had come down in the night, and placed his bridge several feet below the surface. The Avoca was seen July 10th, and the Avon on the following day. A creek was named after Richardson the botanical collector. It was on the eleventh that the traveller first came in sight of the great mountain Dividing Range, the parent of numerous rivers. The Wimmera led him into the country of circular salt lakes. The land was exceedingly fertile, but better fitted for pasturage than wheel moving. So deep and adhesive was the mud, that the party progressed sometimes but three miles a day. Struck with so fine a country, major Mitchell prophetically exclaimed,—“As I stood the first European intruder on the sublime solitude of these verdant plains, as yet untouched by flocks or herds, I felt conscious of being the harbinger of mighty changes; and that my steps would soon be followed by the men and animals for which it seemed to have been prepared.” Ascending the Grampian hills he passed a miserable night upon Mount William, 4,500 feet above the plains, on July 14th. The cold was such, that the sticks of his camp fire were glowing red hot at one end, and covered with icicles at the other. Passing the cone of Zero, he returned to the stream which had been ascertained by Piper to be the Wimmera. The richness of the western district induced the explorer to confer upon the region the interesting name of AUSTRALIA FELIX.—AUSTRALIA THE HAPPY.

Coming upon the rocky bed of the Upper Glenelg on the last day of July, he resolved to follow it down. The mud by the Wannon was a fresh trouble to the major. But such wonderful fertility gave birth to the following enthusiastic encomiums. “We had,” said he, “at length discovered a country ready for the immediate reception of civilized man, and fit for to become eventually one of the great nations of the earth, unencumbered with too much wood, yet possessing enough for all purposes, with a luxuriant soil under a temperate climate. This highly interesting region lay before me, with all its features new and untouched as they fell from the hand of the Creator.” The romantic beauty of the Glenelg charmed the travellers. The last fifty miles they used their boats. That limestone country abounded with extensive grottoes, with pendulous stalactites. These covered with red and yellow creepers, occasionally overhung or enclosed cascades of water. On August 20th the party arrived at Discovery Bay, but found, to their great disappointment, that a sandy

bar prevented the river from being navigable. This noble water course was named after the Secretary of the Colonies, Lord Glenelg. Returning eastward, they approached Portland Bay, into which they thought to have seen fine rivers fall, but saw only the insignificant Surry, Fitzroy and Shaw. Shoe tracks and a tobacco pipe were such unmistakable signs of civilization, that Mitchell expected the presence of Englishmen. He was agreeably surprised at the sight of the flourishing whaling, farming, and pastoral establishment of the Messrs. Henty, from Launceston, and not from Swan River, as the major said in his report. From Mr. Henty of Melbourne, we learned the following story. When the explorers were approaching the station, considerable alarm was experienced; for what could they be but a party of bush-rangers. The means of defence were hastily sought for. They did not intend passively to submit to the five and twenty banditti. Luckily a four pounder was there. Loaded with shot it was directed against the marauders. A conference, however, soon dispelled the illusion, and exhibited the leader of this formidable band to be none other than the Surveyor-General of New South Wales, one thousand miles from home. Procuring a little flour from the diminished stock of the new settlement, our explorers proceeded to round the Grampians, passing Mount Clay, the crater of Napier, &c. The precipitous south western point of the Grampians was pronounced to be Mount Abrupt. The mud here caused the death of a bullock. The leader, finding constant delays seriously affecting the commissariat, resolved to go ahead with a light party and one month's provisions, leaving Mr. Stapylton behind with two months' allowance. The natives gave them an account of a lake Cadong north west of Cape Otway, which received many tributaries from the Dividing Range. A fine stream then was named the Hopkins, but certainly not for its euphony. The major somewhere says, "To give names that may become current in the mouths of future millions has often been a perplexing subject with me." Striking northward he approached Mount Cole of the Pyrenees, Sept. 23. Cole was an officer with Mitchell in the desperate campaign of the Pyrenees, some 44 years ago. The Mammeloid Lava hills of the Dividing Range attracted some attention. The Campaspe was crossed near Tarrengower. A range of granite, with meridional slate bands reposing on it, was called Mount Byng. Another noble mountain tempted Mitchell out of his homeward track. He ascended it, and from the top beheld the Bay of Port Phillip before him and Mount

Byng behind. A classical association coming in his mind, he called the mountain Macedon, after the country of King Phillip, and exchanged the name of Byng for that of Alexander, the conquering son of the Greek King of Macedon. But the major was not the discoverer of Mount Macedon; it had been seen by Hume in 1824. Little did he dream among his lofty imaginings on the top of that hill, that the very meridional rocks over which he had passed, and the whole country, north, east, and west of him, would reveal in future years a golden glory, that would indeed make his *Australia Felix* the envy of nations!

Pushing on with increasing haste across the Goulburn, October 8th, he gained the Ovens in a week, and named the craggy Mount Aberdeen. Two days brought him to the Murray, and on the 25th he arrived at his depot, on the Murrumbidgee, the third day after the exhaustion of his provisions. A pleasing incident occurred on the route. One day the party fell in with a native women, who had lost the track of her tribe. She advanced, carrying upon her shoulders a beautiful little girl, that through an accident had broken a limb. The worthy major showed much kindness to the lost one, and tended her suffering child. Piper learned her story; she was a widow. The introduction of another lady caused great uneasiness to the conjugal affection of Piper's gin, who feared the effect of the widow's enchantment upon her husband. Turandarey saw the jealousy, and, like a prudent, virtuous woman, withdrew; she left her pretty Ballandella for the time with Mr. Mitchell. Subsequently she returned, and accompanied the expedition. When, however, she came within the attractive circle of Joey, King of the Murrumbidgee, she was in great perplexity between love for the black, and gratitude towards the white. The major soon read the tale, and told her that he was quite agreeable to her becoming the spouse of Joey, if she would only let him have the child. She cried bitterly over the little one. She had faith in the leader's promise to take Ballandella to his home, and to bring her up as a daughter among his own children; and then she thought of her swathy lover. So, kissing the girl, and sobbing loudly, she took the hand of her Joey, and walked to his wilderness home. In a subsequent work, Sir Thomas expressed his anxiety about finding a suitable husband for the daughter of Turandarey. In North Australia he met with little Dick, whose amiable qualities marked him out as a suitable companion. History does not inform us of the sequel of this interesting arrangement. Great things were done for Piper, the Bathurst

aborigine. He was gaily clad in a red coat, and presented with governor Darling's old cocked hat and feather. Around his neck was suspended a brass plate, on which were engraved these triumphant words, "The Conqueror of the Interior." The whole expenses of the journey amounted to £1550.

The results of this expedition were most important. Immense excitement was produced in the colonies and in England by the announcement of *Australia Felix*. Faithfully, and with a heart full of grateful emotion, did he pen the following words in his report to the Colonial Secretary: "It has been in my power under the protection of Providence to explore the vast natural resources of a region more extensive than Great Britain, equally rich in point of soil, and which now lies ready for the plough in many parts, as if specially prepared by the Creator for the industrious hands of Englishmen." We are happy to state that Mr. Mitchell was rewarded for his splendid discovery. The New South Wales Council voted him one thousand pounds, and his Sovereign conferred upon him the honors of Knighthood. Captain Sturt had previously received from England a land order for 6000 acres. The selection was on the Murrumbidgee. He afterwards sold the land at the current rate of some five shillings an acre.



CHAPTER V.

THE SUCCESSFUL SETTLEMENT OF PORT PHILLIP.

BATMAN AND GELLIBRAND'S APPLICATION.

The proximity of Western Port to Launceston, its readiness of access at all times, and its perfect safety, caused it to be well known to the Strait traders; and, as sailors' descriptions are much influenced by their own impulsive character, and as their knowledge of the qualities of soils is not equal to their experience at the rudder, we easily comprehend why that district was long the fabled land of brilliant visions,—the hope and object of colonial enterprise, and why, like the apple of Sodom, in the moment of possession, its beauty and richness changed to worthlessness and disgust. Even before the settlement under captain Wright, in 1826, parties had contemplated a location in this Elysium. In about 1824, according to the information afforded the writer by Mr. McIntyre, on the Yarra, three persons resident at the South Esk, Van Diemen's Land, formed an association to run sheep at Western Port. They were Messrs. Wm. Gray, of Avoca, Fielding and Forbes. The removal of the first named gentleman to India frustrated the design. Mr. John Gardiner, also one of our early colonists, mentions that the American Robinson, as he was called, gave much valuable information relative to various parts on our southern coast about the year 1827, and urgently recommended the occupation of so fine a country.

The first private individuals who sought, in a proper and legitimate manner, to establish themselves on our shores were Joseph Tice Gellibrand and John Batman. The former was Ex-Attorney-General of Van Diemen's Land; a man greatly interested in the subject, and to whom, in fact, much of the merit of ultimate success in the colonization of Port Phillip may be justly attributed. Mr. Batman was a settler on the northern side of the island, and reported to be in that day the most energetic and experienced of Bushmen. After long considera-

ion, these two gentlemen thought fit to address the Governor of New-South Wales upon the question. It was known that that officer was favourably disposed to the regular colonization of the place to which a party of convicts and soldiers had been sent in 1826, but it was not known that he had received orders to abandon the place. The following letter was, therefore, dispatched.

Launceston, January 11th, 1827.

SIR,—Understanding that it is Your Excellency's intention to establish a permanent Settlement at Western Port, and to afford encouragement to respectable people to settle there, we beg leave most respectfully to solicit at the hands of Your Excellency a grant of land at that place, proportionate to the property which we intend to embark.

We are in the possession of some flocks of sheep, highly improved, some of the Merino breed, and others of the pure South Devon, of some pure Devon cattle imported from England, and also of a fine breed of horses.

We propose to shift from this place 1,500 to 2,000 sheep, 30 head of superior cows, oxen, horses, &c., &c., to the value of £4,000 to £5,000; the whole to be under the personal direction of Mr. Batman, (who is a native of New South Wales) who will constantly reside there for the protection of the establishment.

Under these circumstances we are induced to hope Your Excellency will be pleased to grant us a tract of land proportionate to the sum of money we propose to expend, and also to afford us every encouragement in carrying out the proposed object into effect.

We have, &c.,

Signed { J. T. GELLIBRAND,
JOHN BATMAN.

To His Excellency Lieut. General Darling, &c., &c.

There was nothing unreasonable or objectionable in the request. The form of grant was that in common use at that period. A man arrived with money, he took that money to the governor, declaring it to be his own, and he there and then obtained a free grant of land, subject to a trifling quit rent, according to his capital, though not more than 2560 acres. Such was the usage in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. We have not the reply to the letter of Messrs. Gellibrand and Batman, but there remains the record of His Excellency's minute upon it, of which this is a copy :—

Acknowledge and inform them that no determination having been come to with respect to the settlement of Western Port, it is not in my power to comply with the request.

March 17th.

(Signed) R. D.

Thus were the hopes of the expectants dashed to the ground. We are not surprized to find that afterwards these men preferred a treaty with savages to dependence upon a government.

SETTLEMENT OF PORTLAND BAY.

In 1833, in consequence of information received from the coasters, the Messrs. Henty, of Launceston, merchants, inspected the capabilities of Portland Bay, and in 1834 anchored there, and formed an independant location. Ostensibly a whaling station, it was really an extensive squatting establishment. The whales were plentiful; three boats in one season took 300 tons of oil. The soil was good for cultivation, and large herds of cattle roamed about the neighbourhood of Mount Clay. The government were ignorant of the existence of anything but the rude huts of visiting whalers. No wonder that major Mitchell was so surprized at the evidence of wealth and progress. Doubtless his party owed their lives to the flour they obtained thence when their provisions were failing. The Hentys applied to the Government for a grant of land; their solicitation was rejected.

In 1834 another attempt was made to reach Western Port overland, with the view of introducing stock from the over-fed pastures of New South Wales. At the advice of Mr. John Gardiner, whose faith in Port Phillip never faltered, who was one of the first to try its virtues, and one of the fortunate to realize wealth from its soil, Mr. McKillop was induced to venture across. Western Port still possessed a marvellous charm in the eyes of colonists, a charm which did not lose its effect for years. Setting out for the Sydney side with instructions, we believe, from captain Hovell, he was not long before he became entangled in the scrub of the Alpine gullies. He courageously pushed onward until he arrived near Lake Omeo, the first explorer of our lofty snowy region. But the brisling rocks frowned defiance on the attempt to penetrate those solitudes. The aborigines never dared the spirit of the mountains. The eagle alone held court there. The attempt cost £800.

LIFE OF BATMAN.

Heroism was the Deity of Ancient Ages. A Menes, a Theseus, a Hercules, a Romulus, an Odin,—the personifications of great deeds, became gods to men. The development of civilization diminishes the

personal identity of humanity. Individuals now rarely emerge from the mass in striking preeminence. The diffusion of education, the restriction of conventionalisms, the competition of interests, tend to reduce all to a common standard. In that lower sphere of social advancement existing in new settlements, the physical energy of the individual has more scope, and the opportunities for exhibiting commanding prowess are more available. A Daniel Boone shoulders his rifle, leaves the furrows of civilization, treads the forest track of blood-thirsty savages, and returns to reveal a glowing Kentucky. Daniel Boone becomes a Hero. Certainly in no part of the world are folks less addicted to Hero Worship than in Australia. We bow down to no image, unless to that of our Sovereign Lady on certain coins of the realm. And yet few places can exhibit so noble an array of daring voyagers and dashing explorers. We owe much to the heroism, for so we will call it, of a Tasman, a Cook, a Flinders, a Sturt, a Mitchell, a Leichardt, a Kennedy. These traversed dangerous seas, or surveyed perilous wilds. They make known to their distant countrymen a more advantageous sphere of toil. But is no merit due to the man that leads on a band to occupy the wilderness,—the one who first establishes a home in the strange land? Such a man was JOHN BATMAN, the real hero of Port Phillip colonization.

John Batman was the third son of William Batman of Parramatta. In the New South Wales Magazine for February 1834, we have this notice of the Australian Patriarch: "29th. At Parramatta, Mr. William Batman, aged 69 years. He resided in the colony 37 years, was highly respected, and his loss will be long felt by a numerous circle of friends and acquaintances." The object of his leaving England was to engage as a Christian Missionary in the South Seas. Mrs. Batman, senior, survived her husband five years, out-living her son John about three months. Our founder was an affectionate son to an excellent mother. He maintained her comfortably in her widowhood and in his last illness would take drink only from an old black tea pot, an heir loom of the family, sent to him by his venerable parent. John Batman was born at Parramatta in 1800. When about 20 years of age a love affair necessitated his removal to the adjoining colony of Van Diemen's Land. Tall, well proportioned, and endowed with prodigious strength, inexhaustible energy, and an indomitable will, he was the beau ideal of a roving bushman. His was not the disposition

steadily, day by day, to follow the plough or tail sheep. He loved better a chase after the Kangaroo, or dash among the rocks after wild cattle, or a ramble with the laughing sons of the forest.

Sterner engagements soon occupied the Tasmanian settlers. Bands of marauding bush-rangers troubled the thinly inhabited districts. Aroused by harsh treatment, or impelled by love of plunder these bold adventurers, now concealed in the tangled scrub or mountain cavern, and now suddenly pouncing upon some lone farm, filled the country with alarm, and afforded many a Robin Hood tale for the fireside. Among those worthies, Brady occupies the first place. Of good family and collegiate education, some youthful folly sent him to the distant land of chains. His bodily sufferings and his mental tortures, under the convict overseers of Macquarie Harbour induced him to attempt an escape at the risk of life. Accompanied by others, he crossed the intermediate frightful wilderness, rallied the party together, declared war upon society, and was chosen chief of the banditti. A few robberies supplied them with arms and horses. A corps of twenty five mounted villains under such able generalship soon spread desolation far and wide. Their mission was simple, and faithfully executed; they were to spare the poor and helpless, to be tender and respectful to females, to shed no blood, but to spoil the wealthy. For several years Governor Arthur sent soldiers, constables and settlers against them in vain. They robbed and left no track.

But we are not writing the history of Australian highwayman, we must, therefore, forbear commencing a narrative of the exploits of this prince of bush-rangers. It is sufficient to say that, though no constable thief catcher, Batman was, like other colonists, anxious to put down this violence, and his love of the adventurous took him from his Ben Lomond home in search of the now broken, dissipated and fugitive band. Brady in one encounter got separated from his last mate, and was severely wounded in his foot. Thus alone, limping along a secluded gully under the Western Mountains in 1825, he encountered the bold eye and stalwart frame of John Batman. They recognized each other. A commanding voice directed the robber to stand and surrender. Brady acknowledged that his time was come, but declared that to no other man but Batman would he yield without a final struggle. A liberal land grant of one thousand acres rewarded the brave capture.

A new theatre of action was now presented. The aborigines of Van Diemen's Land had become the fierce foes of the colonists. We cannot enter into this deeply interesting question, excepting so far as it relates to the hero of our story. The Black war began. About one hundred white people, and we know not how many hundreds of the others, lost their lives. It was then determined to drive the remnant, by a cordon across the country, into the Forrestier's peninsula, and shut them up there. Two thousand persons were out in 1830 upon this expedition. So vast an effort and an expenditure of £30,000 resulted in the capture of one of these poor creatures; the others escaped the net. Mr. Batman figures along with Mr. George A. Robinson in this eventful warfare. But their mission was not the bloody one of destruction. They sought by fair entreaty and exhortations to induce the wild tribes to submit.

In 1829 Batman was nominated the captain of a party of twelve at Oatlands. He succeeded in capturing, without fighting, a small mob of 16. At that time five pounds was offered by Government for every black brought in alive. In his next excursion he was not so successful. The natives, infuriated by repeated acts of cruelty, threw their spears before the parleying could begin. Shots in self defence were given in exchange. Mr. Melville observes, "Messrs. G. A. Robinson, Batman and Cotterell commenced their praiseworthy and christian-like endeavours to bring in the whole of the aborigines; these persons were employed by Government.—They proceeded not with the sword, but with the olive branch." It is not a little singular that these three men afterwards became identified with the early history of Port Phillip. The observations of the Rev. John West in his invaluable History of Tasmania, are entitled to especial attention: "Among those distinguished for the knowledge of the bush, compassion for the natives, and skill for pursuing them, Mr. Batman is the subject of frequent and approving mention."—"To Mr. Batman belongs the praise of mingling humanity with severity, of perceiving human affections in the creatures he was commissioned to resist."—He certainly began in the midst of conflict and bloodshed to try the softer influence of conciliation and charity. He received a party into his house, and endeavoured to win their regard; fed, clothed and soothed them: and when some of them disappointed his hopes, by throwing off their garments and retiring into the bush, he still persevered in attempting

their reclamation."—"Being one of the few who entertained a strong confidence in the power of kindness."

Favours were now showered upon the men who brought to a successful and peaceful conclusion this long and painful contention. Mr. Batman received returns for labour in a grant of 2000 acres. His ten Sydney guides each had a grant of 100 acres. Batman returned to his mountain farm. The Sydney natives remained with him, and acquired the elements of civilization in the pursuits of agriculture. For several years he lived with Mrs. Batman under the shade of snow capped Ben Lomond, and reared in christian principles an interesting and numerous family. There are those now who speak with pleasure of the propriety, intelligence, and hospitality of their Tasmanian home. They were constant attendants upon the Wesleyan Ministry. As to his subsequent career, it is sufficient to say when he brought his family to Port Phillip in April, 1836, he resided in a house on Batman's Hill, which was afterwards used as the first Treasury, and is now the refuge for sick immigrants. He was long and grievously afflicted; though the energy of his powerful mind was apparently undiminished by his sufferings. His daughter Maria was his faithful and tender nurse, until death came on Monday, May 6th, 1839. His remains were interred near the entrance of the old cemetery. The "Port Phillip Gazette" of May 8th, thus records the cause of his decease: "A violent cold, working on mercury previously dormant in his physical system, hurried him to a premature death." His executors were Captain Lonsdale late Colonial Secretary, and James Simpson, Esq., J. P.

BATMAN'S VISIT TO PORT PHILLIP.

Mr. Batman as we have before stated, was an applicant with Mr. Gellibrand in 1827 for permission to settle upon our territory. Though disappointed, the idea was not abandoned. Our founder had frequent conversations with the Governor at Hobart Town upon the project. Colonel Arthur was a man of intelligent views and bold counsels. He warmly approved of the undertaking, and considered Batman the right man to establish such a settlement. The time was now opportune. Everything favored. The island was in a political ferment. Public meetings were called to expose grievances, and criminal prosecutions for libel were common. The agitation was increased by the absurd

declaration of Arthur's, that the free people were only viewed by the Government as "materials for prison discipline." The new Impounding Law was most obnoxious, as by it all cattle were seized found upon unsold lands. This would soon reduce the amount of stock, and starvation was talked of. Added to this there was great commercial distress. Melville, though a warm partizan, goes so far as to write. "The lamentable sight is to be witnessed of every other shop in the town being closed, and almost every man that is met in the street (except Government officers) being in an almost destitute state." Those, therefore, who found a consolation as well as satisfaction in the belief of Providence, regarded the establishment of the colony of Port Phillip as a boon from Heaven to Van Diemen's Land in her hour of need. It is interesting again to indicate the connection between the two countries. Dr. Lang, in his "Sydney Colonist" of that period thus refers to the event.—"The very people (for the existing race of Tasmanians are their representatives) who first took up their abode at Port Phillip for the purpose of founding a British Colony, were, after the lapse of this long interval, the first to discover and to correct their own error."

How was the new country to be settled? It was of no use applying to the Governor of New South Wales. Some authorities said his jurisdiction did not extend thus far: and others, that he had no authority to help or hinder. To organize an establishment, force and capital were requisite. An Association was formed to carry out the views of Batman. Dr. Thomson, the present Mayor of Geelong, informed the writer that Governor Arthur was a prime mover in the affair, and actually selected the men most capable worthily to conduct this mission. Yet it is rather remarkable that afterwards we find him in correspondence opposed somewhat to the immediate object of the Association. But we know that Colonel Arthur was governed by state Policy, and like the crafty Queen Elizabeth of old, was often led by those principles into inconsistencies of action. The names of the members of the Association were, John Batman, Charles Swanston, J. T. Gellibrand, James Simpson, W. Arthur, George Mercer, John and William Robertson, John Helder Wedge, J. T. Collicott, J. Sinclair. A. Cotterell, W. G. Sams, M. Connolly, and T. Bannister. Capt. Swanston was then the leading partner of the Derwent Bank; Mr. Simpson was Police Magistrate of Campbell Town; Mr. Sams the son

of the Under Sheriff of Launceston ; Mr. Mercer, a Major on half-pay ; Mr. Collicott, the Post Master ; Mr. Sinclair, a Superintendent of convicts ; Mr. Wedge, a Government Surveyor, with whom Batman held counsel upon the project ten years before ; Mr. Arthur, the nephew of the Governor ; and the Messrs. Robertson were Hobart Town drapers. Of Mr. Gellibrand, the Solicitor, we have before spoken. It was arranged in the beginning of 1835, that Mr. Batman should go across Bass's Strait, find a suitable location for the establishment, and make an amicable treaty with the aboriginal inhabitants. History had shown that, when the Quaker William Penn and the Catholic Lord Baltimore acted with justice and kindness to the Indians of North America, the lands of Pennsylvania and Maryland were respected in subsequent days of savage incursions.

The description of Mr. Batman's visit to Port Phillip is obtained from two sources,—his official report to Governor Arthur upon his return, and a journal which he kept from May 10th to June 11th, 1835. The report is doubtless the production of Mr. Barrister Gellibrand. The journal is evidently Batman's own. It is in a handwriting known to be his ; and the little memorandum book can be certified by Dr. Thomson, Mayor of Geelong, to contain the identical journal of that period, noted down day by day, and not cooked up after his return. There are internal evidences of its authenticity of unmistakable character. The precious document is now in the possession of Mr. Batman's eldest daughter. Dr. Thomson has in two places written across pages to indicate the situations described.

Now for the narrative. On the 12th of May 1835 he embarked on board the "Rebecca," 30 tons, commanded by Captain Harwood. He had with him seven Sydney Blacks, who had been with him for years, and were once very useful in hunting after Tasmanian aborigines. They were now thought likely to open up a communication with their wilder brothers of Port Phillip. The languages might differ somewhat, but their dissimilarity was not a radical one. Philologists agree as to the identity of the Australian dialects, and their general agreement in construction. His three white followers were James Gumm, Alexander Thompson, and William Todd. Contrary winds prevented the vessel leaving George Town. On the 13th Batman sent to Launceston for some supplies, and on the 16th he received an unexpected visit from his wife. Getting away on the 18th, the "Rebecca," described as

"jumping about like a kangaroo," was forced back into Port Sorell. Here purchases of more tools and agricultural implements were made, with the intention of leaving two men at Port Arthur, "if," as the journalist wrote, "every thing answers and turns out to my expectations." On the 25th he despairingly exclaims, "When shall we have a wind, Oh dear!" Had the Juno of Port Phillip conspired with Æolus to arrest the progress of this wandering Æneas, no more unpropitious gales could have blown. Off again on the 26th, the voyagers entered the caves of Hunter Island, and on Friday, May 29th, they anchored in Port Phillip Bay, by Indented Head, a dozen miles inward.

The energy of the man forbade indulgence. He landed the same day and walked 12 miles over a pastoral paradise. The grass was two to three feet high, and as thick as it could stand. Well might he indite that evening, "I never saw anything equal to the land in my life." The kangaroos skipped about, but the stiffened limbs of the sailor quadrupeds made the chase unsuccessful. Then fresh tracks of natives appeared, and the rude huts in which they had been eating mussels. The next day the vessel drew nearer Geelong. A walk of twenty miles over the peninsula of Indented Head occasioned Mr. Batman thus to express himself;---"I found the hills of a most superior description, beyond my most sanguine expectations." At the close of this day's entry is the following passage; "To my great joy and delight we saw at some distance the natives' fire; I intend to go off to them early in the morning, and get if possible on a friendly footing with them, in order to purchase land."

On the 31st inst. the party landed somewhere near the river Exe, now the Werribee, and proceeded towards the fires. The leader directed his natives to go ahead in the aboriginal costume of a simple undress. The very circuitous tract was pursued for ten miles, when they caught a wretched looking old woman with no toes on one of her feet. Their good temper calmed her apprehensions, and at their request she undertook to guide them to the encampment, where were 20 women and 24 children; the lords of the forest and *mia mia* were absent. The Sydney gentlemen were strangers, and the ladies were coy. But the genial influence of *native* politeness, and the mellowing effect of judicious flattery soon made the camp a merry one. As the journal saith, "They seemed quite pleased with my natives, who could partially understand them. They sang and danced for them." The report, of course, is more stiff and grand:

"My natives joined the tribe; and, after remaining with them, as I judged, a sufficient length of time to conciliate them and explain my friendly disposition, I advanced alone and joined them, and was introduced to them by my natives, two of whom spoke nearly the same language, so as to be perfectly intelligible to them.

"The two interpreters explained to them by my directions that I had come in a vessel from the other shore to settle amongst them, and to be upon friendly terms; that I was, although a white, a countryman of theirs, and would protect them, and I wished them to return with me to their huts, where I had left some presents for them.

"After the strongest assurances on my part of my sincerity and friendly disposition, and that no harm should be done to them, they then proceeded to the huts, where I gave them a pair of blankets each, tomahawks, knives, scissors, looking glasses, and I affixed round the neck of each woman and child a necklace."

Batman describes every woman as having a child at her back, excepting one, "who was quite young and very good looking." He rather inquisitively peeped into the reticules of these folks at home; in one, among bones, nets, stone axes, grubs and roots, was an old iron hoop; in another, strange to say, part of a cart wheel spoke. In the journal he tells us that he gave them 6 lbs. of sugar and some apples, "which they seemed quite pleased with." A pretty little notice comes next; "The young woman, whom I have spoken of before, gave me a very handsome basket of her own make." Quite as becoming a present from the laughing belle of the forest, as embroidered braces from her fairer sister of the boudoir. Of the children we have this record: "They were very good looking, and of a healthy appearance." Alas! were we now the happy little ones of our tribes? Instead of 24 to 20 women; there are not 2 to 20.

On the first of June Batman took another survey from Station Peak, and named the hills after his friends Cotterell, Conolly and Solomon; the last is doubtless our Mount Blackwood. This day's work was 30 miles tour. The day after, the "Rebecca" anchored in Hobson's Bay, at the mouth of the Yarra, where Mr. Batman found no good channel. On the third he left the vessel and went 26 miles up the river, now called Saltwater. No fresh water was obtained till Gumm made a hole beside the stream. Thursday saw them forsake the river for an inspection of Mounts Wedge and Sams. Three emus gave them a run

of 8 miles. Crossing a creek upon a log, they were amused with some rude figures on the wattle bark, representing men fighting. After "a little tea and something to eat," the founder took a further circuit of a dozen miles up a river running from the northward. The following day the party went in the direction of west north-west, crossed the Moonie Ponds, and from a Hill beheld a noble sweep of plains. We fancy our friend's numbers are a little at fault when he talks thus: "From east to west I think there is more than 80 miles certain, and from this to the river or Bay is 50 miles all plains, and 30 miles due north all plains."

A week has elapsed, and no blacks appear. But a smoke rises in the east. A walk of 16 miles through a splendid country brings them to the junction of a creek with one from the north north-east; this was the Merri Creek. In the morning, Saturday, June 6th, after three hours journey, Batman says, "We fell in with a native man, his wife and three children, who received my natives with apparent cordiality, and informed them that the women to whom I had given presents, although belonging to another tribe, had communicated the reception they had met with from us." This friendly black led them towards his comrades. Suddenly six men and as many spears were seen in the rear. "When we stopped," says the journal, "they threw aside their weapons and came very friendly up to us, after shaking hands, and my giving them tomahawks, knives, &c. They took us with them about a mile back, where we found huts, women and children." This was the Jaga Jaga tribe of some fifty persons. We continue the account in the language of the report.

"I joined this tribe about 12 o'clock, and stayed with them till 12 o'clock next day, during which time I fully explained to them that the object of my visit was to purchase from them a tract of their country; that I intended to settle amongst them with my wife and seven daughters; and that I intended to bring to their country sheep and cattle. I also explained my wish to protect them in every way, to employ them the same as my own natives, and also to clothe and feed them; and I also proposed to pay them an annual tribute in necessities as a compensation for the enjoyment of their land.

"The chiefs appeared most fully to comprehend my proposals, and much delighted with the prospect of having me to live amongst them. I then explained to them the boundaries of the land I wished to pur-

chase, and which are defined by hills, to which they have affixed native names ; and the limits of the land purchased by me are defined in the chart, which I have the honor of transmitting, taken from my personal survey.

"On the next day the chiefs proceeded with me to the boundaries, and they marked with their own native marks the trees which were at the corners of the boundaries, and they also gave me their own private mark, which is kept sacred by them, even so much so that the women are not allowed to see it.

"After the boundaries had been marked and described, I filled up as accurately as I could define it the land agreed to be purchased by me from the chiefs ; and the deed, when thus filled up was most carefully read over, and explained to them by the two aborigines, so that they most fully comprehended its purport and effect. I then filled up two other parts of the deed, so as to make it in triplicate, and the three principal chiefs, and five of the subordinate chiefs, then executed each of the deeds, each part being separately read over, and they delivered to me a piece of the soil for the purpose of putting me in possession thereof, and understanding that it was a form by which they delivered to me the tract of land."

The journal states, concerning this transaction, "After some time and full explanation, I found eight chiefs amongst them who possessed the whole of the country near Port Phillip ; three brothers, also, at the same time are the principal chiefs, and two of them are six feet high and very good looking. After a full explanation of what my object was, I purchased two large tracts of land from them, about 600,000 acres, more or less, and delivered over to them blankets, knives, looking glasses, tomahawks, beads, scissors, flour, &c., as payment for the land, and also agreed to give them a tribute or rent yearly. The parchment the eight chiefs signed this afternoon, delivering to me some of the soil, each of them, as giving me full possession of the tracts of land. This took place alongside of a beautiful stream of water, and from whence my land commences, and where a tree is marked four ways to know the corner boundary.

"June 7. Sunday. Detained this morning some time drawing up triplicates of the deeds of the land I purchased, and delivering over to them more property on the banks of the stream, which I have named Batman's Creek after my goodself. Just before leaving, the two prin-

cipal chiefs came and brought their two cloaks or royal mantles, and laid at my feet." * * * "I had no trouble to find out their sacred mark. One of my natives, Bungett, went to a tree out of sight of the women, and made the Sydney native mark. After this was done, I took with two or three of my Sydney natives the principal chief, and showed the marks on the tree. This he knew immediately, and pointed to the knocking out of the teeth. This mark is always made when the ceremony is of breaking the tooth in the front." * * * "He cut out in the bark of the tree his notch, which is attached to the deed, and is the signature of their country and tribe."

Mr. Batman wanted the chiefs to accompany him to the ship; but they pointed to the number of children, and indicated their inability to undertake so long a journey. After walking 12 miles along his side line in a south westerly direction, across Lucy's Creek and Maria's Valley, he once more sighted the vessel in the Bay. He arrived at his old Salt Water River, and come to a large marsh, at the upper end of which was a lagoon a mile broad, full of ducks, &c. This marsh was the Melbourne Swamp, between the Yarra and Salt Water River. Now comes a remarkable entry on this Sunday Journal: "But to our great surprize when we got through the scrub, we found ourselves on a much larger river than the one we went up, and just come down. It was now near sunset, and it would take two days to head the river again. So after some time I made up my mind that two of the Sydney natives should swim across the smallest river, and bring up the boat. Bullet and Bungett swam and had to go about seven miles, which they did, and were back again with the boat in three hours. I was glad to see them, as we had got on the point at the junction of the river, where the tide had come up to our ancles." This important passage in the memorandum book is endorsed with these words, in the handwriting of Dr. Thomson:—"Junction of Salt Water." Yes, Batman was doubtless the first white man that stood at the junction of the Yarra and Salt Water River, and the first to round the swamp by the site of the Melbourne gas works.

The journal continues;—"Got to the vessel, where my travelling (I hope on foot) will cease for some time.—I intended to leave Gumm, Dodd, Thompson, Bullet, Bungett and Old Bull on my land at Indented Head with three month's supply." The particulars mentioned on June 8th are very important, substantiating, as they do, Mr. Batman's

knowledge of the Yarra Falls at Melbourne, and his first conception of the favourable position of that quarter for the establishment of a settlement. Though not destined to be the Father of Melbourne, we know not how much that Father was indebted to his discovery for the successful location of Melbourne.

"June 8, Monday. The boat went up the large river I have spoken of, which comes from the east, and I am glad to state about six miles up found the river all good water and very deep. This will be the place for a village. The natives on shore."

But we must hasten to close this interesting narrative. The next day's entry refers to his preparations for departure.

"June 9. Indented Head. Pointed out spot where Gumm is to commence a garden, hut or house, &c. The whole of my natives at last wanted to stop with the other three natives already mentioned. They have got three months supply or more, with a large quantity of potatoes to put in the ground, and all kinds of other garden seeds, as well as pips and stone fruit. I left apples and oranges with them, also the six dogs, and gave Gumm written authority to put off any persons that may trespass on the land I have purchased from the natives. We shook hands with them, and off we came to the Heads." Two or three days after, they were in Launceston.

Thus was commenced the Port Phillip second settlement. The new colonists erected a wattle and dab hut on the shore of Indented Head near Swan Point, says Dr. Thomson, about 15 miles from the Heads. They proceeded to enclose ground and cultivate, raising by the latter end of October some very fine potatoes, which had been but nine weeks growing. It was between Batman's first and second trip that Buckley, the wild white man, first visited the tent of the new comers.

Mr. Fawkner, as the old antagonist of Mr. Batman, has published in the "Digger's Advocate" of 1853 some very severe critiques on his rival's performances, which it is our duty, as the chronicler, to bring again before the public. But Mr. Batman is not in the world to reply to the attack. He has no son to defend his memory; the waters of the Yarra passed over the head of that hapless child.

Mr. Fawkner thus commences: "Lieutenant Governor Arthur, and certain of his friends or political partizans and traders, &c." The

Colonel's nephew is called "a loose fish;" and of Mr. Gellibrand he writes: "Between him and Governor Arthur they received at last a good round sum from the treasury of New South Wales, for the few pounds they actually expended in this attempt to rob the people of the fine lands and rich gold fields of Victoria." It so happened that neither of those two received a penny. Those who had the compensation had expended more than the amount allowed. We need hardly notice the charge of robbing fine lands and gold fields. The 600,000 acres claimed were far enough from our gold fields, and far inferior in amount to the free grant to a company of English non-resident capitalists, who have one million of acres in the finest part of New South Wales, and whose advent was hailed as a boon by the colonists. And we have yet to learn whether greater progress would not have been made under that Port Phillip association of old colonists during the early years than under a government 16,000 miles away. Of Mr. Batman Mr. Fawcner thus speaks: "He was one of Colonel Arthur's toadies, and had got from him a large grant or two of land prior to this." And for every acre of land so obtained did he not give an acre's worth of service, and hazard his life too, while so engaged?

He then tells a story about Batman returning to the vessel, producing his deeds with a number of very strange marks thereon, and seated upon a cask, receiving the drunken homage of the men as *King John*. He is said to have been but two days on shore, and to have "only looked at Port Phillip," when we know he was nine days there. As to his asserted incapacity to walk 20 miles, we need only refer to the following extracts from his diary; "30th. Walked about 20 miles. 31st. We could not have walked less than 30 miles to day. June 3. I followed up the river 26 miles. 4th. Walked about 30 miles to day, &c."

Mr. Fawcner ridicules the idea of the two Sydney blacks reading over the deed to the wild men. Though Batman's report may be ambiguous, for, be it remembered, it was drawn up by a lawyer, yet the sense can be tolerably made out. The sentence complained of is: "The Deed when thus filled up was most carefully read over and explained to them by the two interpreters." The insertion of commas at *deed*, *up*, and *over*, will remove the obscurity. It is not intended to convey that the blacks read the deed, any more than that they filled it up. Those Sydney natives were not so ignorant as supposed. They

may be imagined to know something of a conveyance, when they had received grants of land in Van Diemen's Land, and had, doubtless, in several cases re-conveyed to purchasers. Our critic says he offered to prove before Governor Bourke in 1837 that those men could not read, &c. He then closes his animadversions in these words: "And yet Mr. Batman got favor not only to hold the land, and the house he built, but also a large section upon the Yarra Yarra. Reader, butter and milk, and eggs, and a few fowls, &c., &c., are very acceptable when travelling in an almost uninhabited country, and of these a very copious supply found their way into the large tent of the governor-in-chief, whilst he sojourned at Port Phillip. The writer of these reminiscences was never given to "grease the fat pig," nor fawn on men drest in a little brief authority, "but kept on the even tenor of his way."—We rather think that Batman's family would be glad to see the grants of Batman's hill and the large section upon the Yarra.

We do sympathize with the difficulties Mr. Fawcner experienced about the celebrated deed, found in a subsequent part of the work. But such documents are never remarkable for perspicuity, and scarcely intended for perusal by any out of Temple Courts. The boundaries of the land are thus described by Mr. Fawcner. In a letter dated May, 1836, he says: "His purchase follows the river up the right bank for nine miles from the Bay Head, and then 40 miles north east, and ends where the eastern line from the west coast intersects it." Nearly twenty years after he writes thus to the "Digger's Advocate:" "It appears that Mr. Batman, his party, and the aborigines, travelled some four or five miles up the Yarra Yarra, which river he did not find; then forty miles north east, then another forty miles across Tramoo plains, (a name taken from Hume and Hovell's overland travels to Port Phillip) and then south by west about 80 miles across the Station Peak Mount, down to the bay at Geelong, and that the aborigines marked the trees along the whole of the lines. These falsehoods were too transparent to blind an old colonist on the spot." * * * "Then his precious deed asserts that he did travel in these two days 160 miles and then he was nearly 40 miles from the vessel; yet if his account is to be believed, he went over another 40 miles, making 200 miles through the wilds of the colony, on foot, carrying luggage half the way."

There is some heavy metal here. Yet Batman does not say in his

journal that the natives went round, but the opposite; and to refer to the fixing only of one point, natural objects as hills, supplying the rest. Even the ambiguous and legally drawn up report simply speaks of marking the trees at the corners of the boundaries, not, as Mr. F. says, along the whole of the lines. It is a pity that Mr. Batman did not read with a little more care the documents to be signed by himself, prepared in the Solicitor's office, Hobart Town. We have much more faith in the description written in the journal at the very time, than the more elaborate documents presented to his Excellency. For the history of the *two days* spoken of, the reader is referred to the journal. An examination of the chart accompanying this book, will give us an idea of what some regarded as the territories of the association, with the division of the spoil. We hardly understand Mr. Fawkner when he says, "I landed, and settled, and the wheat I had sown was cut months before Mr. Batman settled," unless he means that Mrs. Batman did not arrive till then, which was a few weeks after Mrs. Fawkner left the "Cornwall Hotel," Launceston, to join her husband. But Batman's party sowed seed in July, and gathered in their crops of potatoes the same month in which Mr. Fawkner first saw this country, namely, October. Moreover, the establishment of Mr. Batman was in full vigor on Batman's hill, Melbourne, and cultivation proceeding, in the month of September.

FAWKNER'S YARRA SETTLEMENT.

John Pascoe Fawkner, Esq., now an active member of the Legislative Council of the Colony of Victoria, landed upon the shores of Port Phillip, in October, 1803. He was then a little boy, allowed to accompany his exiled father. His early life in Van Diemen's Land, amidst unparalleled scenes of dissipation and debauchery, gave him, he declares, so unconquerable a dislike to intemperance, that he was always enabled to avoid the fate of a drunkard. When a young man, he laboured in a saw pit. Being, though bereft of the advantages of early education, attached to books, and having a strong love of justice, and an instinctive partiality to disputation and argument, we are not surprised to find him afterwards figuring as an Advocate. In those halcyon days, before the glorious advent of Barristers, Solicitors, Attorneys, &c., &c., a very small amount of law sufficed for the Magistracy of

Van Diemen's Land. To aid the ends of justice, that is, to afford some chance for the ignorant accused, certain parties were allowed to plead in the "Little Go," and received the honourable appellation of *Agents*. Mr. Fawkner was long an Agent in the ancient court of Launceston. In the primitive times of Port Phillip he performed the same duty, in the rude police office of Melbourne. Such persons were commonly known as "Bush Lawyers." Saving a little money, the father of our town next appeared as an Inn-keeper, retaining for many years the "Cornwall Hotel" of Launceston, and conducting it in a manner which gained approval and respect. His desire to expose abuses in government, and point out improvements in legislation, led him to become the father of the Press in Launceston, as establishing the "Launceston Advertiser" in 1829. He bitterly derided the efforts to capture the blacks in 1830, and predicted their certain failure. He espoused the cause of the oppressed; and we must say to his honor that, in a period of abundant secret service funds, he was never known to betray the interests of the people.

How to come to project his celebrated expedition to Port Phillip is an open question. His own version is, that he had long contemplated the voyage, but that he had been disappointed in his attempt to charter the "Enterprise," a schooner of 50 tons, then on a trip to Sydney. The Batmanites assert that he obtained his information of the country from John Batman surreptitiously; for, be it known to the reader, this rivalry produced envy and all uncharitableness. Friend Gosling says of the two gentleman, "They wanted both to be kings at the same time." Mr. Westgarth observes, "The claim put forward by Fawkner's party received no attention—a circumstance that occasioned another bone of contention." And again: "A war of recriminations was now in full play between the rival parties." Arden, the early chronicler writes: "The heart-burnings thereby, and thereafter caused between the powerful families of Fawkner and Batman involved the whole primitive society of the place in sundry misunderstandings and collisions, the records whereof could not be done justice to by the pen of another Knickerbocker." We will, therefore, confine ourselves to facts, and not attempt to solve family questions of difference.

We now present our readers with the detail of the Yarra Settlement in the language of Mr. Fawkner himself, written by request for the "Digger's Advocate," three years ago.

"Early in the year 1835, the writer of these pages had arranged in his own mind a plan of colonization for Port Phillip, and to enable him to make good his scheme, five residents of Launceston were taken into his confidence. What strange events are brought about by small means, and from what a mixed society of honorable men, was this project carried into operation. The colonizers were six in number; one ex-editor of the "Launceston Advertiser," G. P. F., one architect and builder, two cabinet makers and builders, one plasterer, and one captain in the merchant service. The most of them possessing at least a fair average share of common sense, and no little activity. Each of them brought with them some capital, in cash or stock, and a vast amount of the very best of capital, that without which no new colony can get on well, viz., hands used to work, and minds resolved to labor. J. P. Fawkner, in order to insure the necessary means of transit to and from Port Phillip and Launceston, bought of Mr. John Anderson Brown, the schooner "Enterprise," of about 55 tons burthen? but Mr. B.'s agent had employed that vessel, which had been sent to fetch coals from Newcastle, in the regular coal trade between Sydney and the coal mines of Newcastle, and thus the settlement of Port Phillip was retarded some weeks."

"On the 13th of July, 1835, the schooner "Enterprise" returned from Sydney, and on the 18th was duly delivered to J. P. Fawkner. On the 21st she was dispatched from Launceston with the pioneers to form a new colony in New South Wales.

"No time had been lost in procuring provisions, a good whale boat and its fittings, and all such things as J. P. Fawkner thought might be useful or required in a place which few vessels visited. He particularly furnished common coarse food and clothing, together with blankets and tomahawks, knives and handkerchiefs suitable for the aborigines, which were afterwards found very useful. Horses and ploughs, grain to sow, garden seeds and plants, and a very large and varied assortment of fruit trees, 2,500 in number, were shipped on board, and a stock of provisions to last some months, part of the materials for a house, and most of the comforts required in civilized life.

"On the 27th, the "Enterprise" put to sea from George Town, the port of clearance, having on board Messrs. Wm. Jackson, Geo. Evans, Robert Hay Moor, Captain John Lancey, and John Pascoe Fawkner. Mr. G. Evans took over one servant, and J. P. Fawkner put on board

James Gilbert, blacksmith, and his wife Mary, Charles Wise, ploughman, and Thomas Morgan, general servant.

"The voyagers passed out with a fair wind, but a foul one soon set in, and for three nights and two days contrary weather kept the vessel almost within sight of George Town Heads. J. P. Fawcner became very ill from sea-sickness and other causes, and ordered the captain to return to George Town. He then resolved to let the expedition go on, he giving them full written instructions to guide and direct their plan of operations. And landing one of his horses at George Town, J. P. F. proceeded overland to Launceston, and the "Enterprise" passed over to Western Port, followed by a sloop, in which Mr. John Aitken embarked without a navigator, merely keeping up with the "Enterprise," which, from her slowness was no great difficulty. Mr. John Aitken had been lying perdue, in order to slip over with our party, without our knowledge. This Western Port was to be carefully examined by a series of triangular marches each day, the Bay forming the base, and ten miles or more was the distance they were to march inland, returning from four to five miles further west, or nearer the West Head, until the whole Bay was examined. They entered Western Port on Saturday the 8th day of August, and left it and passed into Port Phillip on Saturday the 15th day of August. One out of many bits of fun was often talked over in the Western Port exploration. The weather was very cold, and much rain had fallen, many swamps had to be crossed, and, on one occasion the party had got very wet ashore, and when they pushed off the boat, so thick a fog came on, that the sailors missed their true course, and got on a sand flat. Imagine six men, no food, no bedding, hungry from a hard day's travel, and obliged to sit all night in a cold fog and wet clothes. One of the party, a cockney, bitterly lamented in a most droll manner, the sorrow he felt for having suffered his brother to drag him from London; and putting up his hands in an imploring manner, earnestly prayed that he might once more reach White-Chapel, and nothing on earth should ever tempt him to leave that glorious spot again. Yet this man has, in defiance of bad management, made a fortune—and that a large one—by squatting pursuits.

"After carefully examining the lands around Western Port and giving them up as not likely to form a good site for any very dense population, the "Enterprise" pushed out of Western Port on Saturday, the

15th day of August, about 8 o'clock a. m. On passing the duck ponds near Shortland Bluff, a whale-boat, manned with some Sydney aborigines and one white man, came off, and asked "the news—where from—and whereto," and told our people that Mr. John Batman, KING of Port Phillip, had bought all the lands and desired **ALL TRESPASSERS TO KEEP ALOOF!** The blacks were civil enough, and supplied our people with plenty of good choice fish. The "Enterprise" was conducted by Captain Hunter, as Master of the vessel, along the southern channel, and the men landed each day to examine the country from five to ten miles inland, the vessel only moving a short distance until they returned on board, and pushing a few miles further by night in order to examine new lands the next day. No eligible spot was found on the east side of Port Phillip Bay. The directions were not to finally settle down, except upon a river or copious supply of fresh water. On Thursday the 20th the "Enterprise" came to anchor in Hobson's Bay, just clear of the bar upon the channel to the Yarra Yarra; and the new colonists, Messrs. R. H. Moor, George Evans, W. Jackson, and Capt. Lancey, putting some provender into the five oared whale-boat brought for the occasion, on Friday the 21st of August, pushed off with two of the workmen, to explore the inlet. In fact, they all, except Capt. Hunter, Master of the "Enterprise," doubted as to that being the debouchement of any stream. But he found it on his chart, and advised their trying to find what he was sure they would—a fresh water river. With three cheers from the crew for success to the adventurers, they pushed off, and after once or twice touching on the mud flats, they found plenty of deep water, and pushed on joyfully and thoughtlessly, passed the junction of the Yarra Yarra without much notice, and went up the direct course, named by them the Salt Water River, because they could not get up it far enough to find the stream fresh, owing to the vast number of fallen trees lying in the water, which so obstructed the navigation, that after much labour they landed, and could not then discover the fresh water, the place that they landed at not allowing them to see the course of the stream. They returned to the vessel exhausted and fretful, having been most of the day without water to drink, they having on all former occasions found plenty of that element on shore. Mind, this was in August, the wet season.

"The next day they took water as well as food, and pushed up the

Yarra Yarra, having noticed the opening thereto on their return from the Salt Water Stream ; and after about an hour and quarter's pull, they reached with great joy the basin at Melbourne, and were delighted, in fact, half wild with exultation, at the beauty of the country. The velvet-like grass carpet, decked with flowers of most lively hues, most liberally spread over the land, the fresh water, the fine lowlands, and lovely knolls around the lagoons on the flat or swamps, the flocks, almost innumerable, of teal, ducks, geese, and swans and minor fowls, filled them with joy. They all with one voice agreed that they had arrived at the site of the new settlement, and resolved to have the vessel brought up if possible, the goods, stores, &c., landed, and the commencement of a town forthwith made. They took a stand upon what was subsequently called Batman's Hill, and passed some hours there, and thereabout, enjoying the novel and extraordinary view before them. They were so pleased with the country that they made it night before they returned to the vessel, which was lying opposite to Williams Town (that now is) near the bar entrance to the Yarra Yarra River. Capt. Hunter having been diligently employed these two days with his crew sounding the way up, it took some time to provide poles and fix them on the various shoals in the stream, now marked by large buoys and strong beacons (but then markless); and all this accomplished, the vessel was, with much trouble got up to the so-called junction, and the next day, a fair wind drove the lucky "Enterprise" up into the basin at Melbourne; the Captain reporting three fathoms all the way up, and in one part of the basin seven and a half fathoms of water, viz., from the junction up, and into the basin.

"No time was lost, although it was Sunday, in getting the vessel close to the bank, at the very spot now occupied by the old shed of the Custom's department, and some timber had to be cut from the overhanging trees to allow the vessel to lie alongside the bank; from a plank the people landed, and the horses, having been nearly six weeks aboard, were hoisted out and landed, very much to their satisfaction; the fine young green grass and flowering herbage appearing to gratify their palates, and their gambols evincing their delight at being released from ship board, with its unsteady evils and close confinement. There the Master and crew of the "Enterprise" joined the adventurers in their undisguised joy at the success, that after several weeks' arduous exertion, seemed likely to reward, aye, well reward, their joint labours,

It may not be out of place here to remark that Capt. Hunter all through looked upon the attempt to form a new settlement as a wild goose chase. The fine fertile fields, the open, flowery and grassy knolls and downs, and the indescribable charms which the country, at first sight, around Melbourne displayed, rivetted almost every visitor's attention, until man's hand had despoiled nature of her pristine features. The poet has said, "Beauty unadorned is loveliest." And this then could truly be said of the country around (what is now called) Melbourne.

"Kangaroo dogs had been provided by J. P. Fawcner, and the first day of landing a fine boomer was started not many yards from the vessel, driven into the river, just above the site of the Prince's Bridge, killed and taken to the vessel. The river, above the Falls, was most odoriferous with the scent of the wattle blossom, which added also to the beauty of the scenery. Monday, the 31st of August—nothing done. The next day, Tuesday, September 1st, 1835, the goods were put ashore and a hut soon made to cover them, and a sleeping hut for the adventurers that were to remain. On Wednesday, late in the evening, Mr. John Hilder Wedge, a V. D. Land surveyor, came to Melbourne, brought by the blacks in a whale-boat Mr. Batman had left at Indented Head. Strange to say, that, although he only came thirty miles and must have known that he would have to return, he trusted to our people's hospitality to feed him there and find him food for his return voyage, although he made the trip in order to warn off our party. He was also guilty of something very like double dealing, he got into conversation with Capt. Lancey, who had charge from J. P. Fawcner of the direction of all matters on land concerning the adventure. Pumping (as it is called) him of all the occurrences of the trip, and stating that he was only out overlooking the country, that he was not interested, &c. &c. Although he was one of the greedy seventeen, he kept up this tone all the afternoon and the next day, until he had got a supply of food wherewith to return to the Indented Head, and then he changed his tone, told Capt. Lancey and the other colonists, that he had come expressly to warn them off, as the whole of the lands of Port Phillip had been bought and paid for by him and his co-associates (and a pretty medly lot they were) and finished by handing over to Capt. Lancey a written order for him and all his party to leave their (the company's) landed estate. Capt. Lancey handed

the paper back to J. H. W. telling him he might want such a piece for some necessary occasion, which would be the full worth of such a notice, not forgetting to tell him of the change in his story of the morning from the one at night, taunting him with his two-face dealing.

"The land having been selected close to Mr. Langland's foundry, for the garden, and also to put in a few acres of wheat; on Tuesday the first plough was put into the earth, and on the 8th of September five acres of wheat were sown, partly on and around Mr. Langland's foundry, and a garden commenced between that and the hill known as Batman's Hill, upon which hill our people first pitched their tent on the 30th of August, 1835, and which was not removed until J. P. Fawcner came over in October 1835, when he fixed to dwell nearer the fall, and put up his house exactly at the rear of the Custom House.

"The ploughing was performed by horse labor, and the ploughman was George Wise, one of the sons of Mr. Richard Wise of Norfolk plains, who was engaged to J. P. Fawcner for one year's service, as general farm servant at £25 a year.

"It had been agreed that each person of the six associates should have a plot of land, on which to build and make a garden, and grow corn on, and that if it was found that the Government would not allow the whites to buy and hold land, under title obtained from the aborigines, it was thought no reasonable British Government would refuse to the first *bona fide* settlers a plot of land on which they might grow food for themselves and dependants. This expectation, as the reader will find, was one very wide of the mark when Sir Richard Bourke took possession of our discovery, made at the risk of life, and at a cost of money few people are aware of.

"The small lots agreed upon were measured off simply ten acres for each of the six. Contrast this with the Squatting fraternity, pushed over under the auspices of Lieutenant-Governor Arthur, in which his nephew, if not himself, had one share, and many of his officers also shared amongst them the fine fertile fields of Australia Felix. The writer cannot but own that he loves that name or title far more, than the common hackneyed one of "Victoria." The lands having been roughly measured off, lots were drawn, and on the lands which fell to J. P. Fawcner's share, the ground was ploughed and sown with wheat and a garden dug, plants put in, seeds sown and the fruit trees planted

in the soil. Tuesday the first of September the loading of the vessel was safely placed on shore, and whilst some were labouring on this work, others were preparing a hut, and on Wednesday the 2nd Sept. all hands were employed getting and carrying grass, and storing a store hut. September 3rd, the "Enterprise," in passing out of the basin, got too close to the south bank and took the ground, but soon got clear. Next day 4th dropt down to a point below the junction and took in ballast. Friday the 5th September at 2 a. m. the "Enterprise" left the Yarra Yarra, and J. P. Fawkner's servants, and also Mr. George Evans and his man Evan Evans remained there. Messrs. W. Jackson and Robert Henry Moor returned to Launceston per the "Enterprise," and on Sunday the 7th September, at 4 p. m. the pilot came on board and safely conducted the vessel to anchorage at George Town, River Tamar."

Mr. Fawkner arrived at Port Phillip, October 10th, the anniversary of his first visit in 1803. He gave a glowing description of the country, which was then covered with a profusion of native flowers. The river was fringed with dense tea tree scrub. The site of our town was clothed with acacias, she-oaks and massive eucalypti. The gully between the two hills, now Elizabeth Street, was a perfect jungle. The swampy ground near the river had a most luxuriant herbage. On the eastern hill were many huge gum trees, while the western presented with its drooping she-oaks a more parklike appearance. Mr. Westgarth in his distinguished work on "Victoria, late Australia Felix," has the following poetical description of the locality in which nature has yielded to art, and the wood nymph to McAdam;—"The kangaroo, skipping about in undisturbed happiness, would emerge in troops upon the flat from the denser woods on the southern bank of the Yarra. The branches of the old gum trees were filled with black and white cockatoos, and innumerable paroquets, whose gaudy plumage sparkled in the bright sunshine, while their incessant chattering imparted life to a scene otherwise hushed in the rare presence of men, and the total absence hitherto of his noisy but enlivening commerce."

For a long period there was no easy, cleanly, approachable access to the muddy wharf, and strangers at night-fall experienced in its vicinity a very passage of horrors. Fawkner located himself under

Batman's hill, and brought several acres into cultivation. Being subsequently sent to Bagdad, in other words, obliged by Batman's association to withdraw across the river, he cultivated, he told us, some ninety acres between Emerald Hill and the river. The furrows may still be observed. When, however, the messengers of the law arrived, they coolly broke down the fence and turned their horses into Fawknor's cultivated paddocks. The story runs, that on the visit of Governor Bourke, he rudely, with his own hand, tore aside the enclosures of the squatter without leave.

The superiority of the Yarra site was so manifest, having an abundant supply of fresh water, that population gathered round, and the town of Melbourne arose. Thus was the visit of the "Enterprise" made the occasion of the settlement of the metropolis of Port Phillip. Although Mr. Fawknor could not reach the new place until some six weeks after his five partners, yet as he was the prime mover of the undertaking, and, according to his own showing, the planner of the expedition, and the selector of the very Yarra locality for settlement, he may justly be entitled to the distinguished honor of being the **FOUNDER OF MELBOURNE**. Mr. Batman was undeniably the Founder of the Colony of Port Phillip; but, when a settler, he never interfered with public affairs. His rival in fame, on the contrary, has a name associated with colonial politics for the last thirty years. He not only laid the foundation of Melbourne, but he has been identified with the progress of the work at each successive stage. With all his waywardness, eccentricity and obstructiveness, he has proved himself a very useful and faithful public servant, and one whom a people should delight to honor.

MR. WEDGE'S NARRATIVE.

As Mr. Fawknor has spoken of a Mr. Wedge, we would inform the reader, that that gentleman held an honorable government appointment in Hobart Town twenty years ago, and that he is now highly esteemed as an active member of the Tasmanian Legislative Council. At the request of the author, he furnished a sketch of his early connexion with this country. He nowhere alludes to Mr. Fawknor's accusation, being unacquainted with the publication of it, else he might be able to defend himself. It will be seen that he asserts Mr. Fawknor's enterprise to have been undertaken upon the strength of Mr. Batman's

favourable report of the country. Possibly, then, the two gentlemen have not always been on terms of affectionate amity. Mr. Wedge's letter to the writer is dated from Leighland, near Perth (V. D. L.) Feb, 23rd, 1856. After some private remarks he writes thus :—

“I believe an incorrect version has obtained in the minds of some as to the person who first originated the scheme, and took possession of the country. I can have no hesitation in saying that the idea first originated with the late Mr. John Batman and myself. So early as the year 1825, on the occasion of my surveying and marking off his grant of land at Kingstown on the Ben Lomond Rivulet, we projected an exploring expedition into the interior of Australia; and we rarely, if ever, met afterwards without renewing the subject, and strengthening our belief in the feasibility of the scheme; and so in earnest were we on the subject, that Mr. Batman jointly with Mr. Gellibrand, to whom he had communicated his views, addressed a letter to the colonial government of New South Wales, asking permission to occupy land at Port Phillip, on condition of their sending to that place stock to the value of £5000. And I subsequently, somewhere about the year 1833, on the occasion of Sir George Arthur's visiting the east coast, volunteered to conduct an expedition across Australia, commencing at the Gulf of Carpentaria. Lieut. Darling and Mr. Batman, who were of the party, offered to join me in the undertaking.”

This proposition, after a year's delay was ultimately given up. Mr. Wedge resumes: “Mr. Batman and myself then fell back upon our original scheme, and determined to carry it out as a private enterprise. Soon after this Mr. Batman communicated the project to the late Mr. Gellibrand, Capt. Swanston and others, who took the matter up warmly, and joined in an association for carrying it out. The plan Mr. Batman and myself had first arranged, founded on information we had obtained from parties who had been there, was to land at Portland Bay, and to examine the interior from thence; but we were induced to abandon this idea from fresh information obtained by Mr. Batman in reference to the country around Port Phillip, about the beginning of May.

“He landed, and traversed the country hastily in the vicinity of Station Peak, where he fell in with some natives. He afterwards explored up the banks of the Salt Water River, from thence to the eastward to the head of the Moona Ponds; proceeding north and north east from

thence till he fell in with the Jigga Jigga tribe of natives, and then returned to the marsh or swamp near the present site of Melbourne, and joined his vessel which had waited for him at, or near to, Williams Town.

"Mr. Batman's report of the country was such as to confirm the association in their determination to send over stock, and take possession of the country; but before doing so, it was deemed desirable that a more extended examination of the country should be made, and I undertook to accomplish it. To enable me to do so, I applied for a short leave of absence; upon which being denied I resigned my appointment, and embarked and sailed from George Town about the 18th July, 1835. I landed on Indented Head, and joined the party Mr. Batman had left there to form an establishment, and to keep up a communication with the natives. I may here mention that William Buckley, who had resided 32 years with the natives, had joined the party a few days prior to my arrival, and we were indebted to him for the friendly feeling that was maintained with them.

"The last journey I made was for the express purpose of ascertaining where the principal rivers discharged themselves into Port Phillip, with the view to determine the most eligible site for a permanent establishment. It was with no little surprise, on arriving at the place where Melbourne now stands, that I observed in the basin, just below where the Prince of Wales' Bridge spans the Yarra Yarra with its noble arch, a vessel quietly and securely moored. The sight was so unexpected that at the moment I fancied that I had come upon an unknown settlement; and it was with no little interest and anxiety that I advanced to introduce myself to the party in charge of the craft. It turned out to be a vessel (I believe the "Enterprise") belonging to Mr. Fawkner, which he had sent thither in charge of Mr. Lancey, to form an establishment, on the strength of Mr. Batman's favourable report of the country.

"She had crept into the Port, and proceeded up the Yarra Yarra, unobserved either by the party left at Indented Head by Mr. Batman, or by the Tribe of Natives who were also encamped with them. The "Enterprise" (if that was her name) was certainly the first vessel that had ever worked her way up to where the Queen's Wharf has since been built. It was on this occasion I gave the river the name of 'Yarra Yarra,' from the following circumstance: On arriving in sight

of the river, the two natives who were with me, pointing to the river, called out, 'Yarra Yarra,' which, at the time, I imagined to be its name; but I afterwards learnt that the words were what they used to designate a waterfall, as they afterwards gave the same designation to a small fall in the river Weiribie, as we crossed it on our way back to Indented Head.

"On my return to my head quarters, I immediately broke up the establishment, and removed it to the north bank of the Yarra Yarra, and encamped, if not at the very place, not far from where St. James' Cathedral now stands."

WILLIAM BUCKLEY.

This extraordinary man remained with the natives of Port Phillip from 1803 to 1835. Originally a mason, then a soldier of the 4th regiment, afterwards a convict on the "Calcutta," and servant to Governor Collins, he became a bolter from the camp, and was left behind on the abandonment of the settlement. On the arrival of Batman's party he dwelt once more among his own people. Of gigantic size and proportions, had his intelligence and mental vigor been at all corresponding to his physical developement, he would have been the Minos or the Napoleon of the wild tribes of the south. But his singular torpidity of intellect, taciturnity of disposition, and indifference to action, made him absolutely impressionless upon the minds of his savage friends. Not one single elevating thought, not one moral sentiment, not one trifling element of civilization do they owe to his instructions or example. He sunk at once to the barbarian; he clad as a savage; he fed as a savage; he lived as a savage. When found by the whites he had forgotten his language; and, even after his recovery of speech, his vague and laconic replies to interrogations afforded less information than mystery about his character and experience. But as a work was written three years ago by Mr. John Morgan, purporting to be an account obtained from the lips of Buckley himself in Hobart Town, we will first glance at its contents, and then refer to descriptions of the man by the old settlers. Although we are almost disposed to believe that the book is as near a description of the

real life of Buckley, as the Robinson Crusoe of De Foe was that of Alexander Selkirk, still it must be acknowledged that Mr. Morgan has produced an interesting and readable volume. His imitation of the simple language and feeble ideas of such a man is excellent, and ranks him honorably among English writers. Yet how he got out of that reserved person such a continuity and distinctiveness of narrative is a marvel to many.

This is his tale. He was born at Macclesfield in Cheshire in 1780. When he ran away from the settlement he was accompanied by three other prisoners, although one was shot in escaping. The rest got to the other side of the Bay. The two left Buckley to go round the head of the Bay, and he never saw them more. This part of the story differs from that version he gave others. When first spoken to about his two mates, he became sulky and angry. He never liked any reference to them. Once he said that one was killed by a snake, but that he knew nothing of the other. It has been suspected that deficiency of food led to a horrible repast. Mr. Wedge in his communication to the Geographical Society in 1835, mentions that the names of the men were Pye and Marmon; that Pye was left behind at the Yarra through exhaustion; and that Marmon parted with Buckley at Indented Head, with the intention to return to the camp. Going on with Mr. Morgan's narrative, we learn that he lived on berries and shell-fish, and that three native women first saw him and brought the men. These called him Murragark after a deceased friend, whom he was supposed to resemble; especially as he carried in his hand a part of a spear which he had picked up. Then there follows a description of native wars, cannibal feasts, traditions, &c. Speaking of his marriage with a fair widow of 20, and dwelling on the romantic banks of the Karaaf in a sylvan alcove with this sweet Delilah, amidst those delicious associations, the conception of which causes the brains of poets to reel with ecstatic delight, the prosaic Buckley is made to say, "My dearly beloved played me most abominably false, for at the end of our honeymoon one evening when we were alone in our hut, enjoying our domestic felicity, several men came in, and took her from me by force; she however, going very willingly: I confess I did not make a great fuss about my loss, if it was one." The frail lady was subsequently speared for some act of coquetry by a less indifferent husband. The wild white man was consoled in his solitude by being unexpectedly joined by a

runaway young woman. The cavern home of this pair is still pointed out to colonial pilgrims. It is about three miles from Queenscliffe, close to the sea shore. Buckley said that he had no children, though he adopted a boy and girl belonging to his murdered, supposed, brother in law. This again differs from other accounts. Several respectable settlers, as Mr. Gardiner and Mr. A. Sutherland, believe that he had several children. Mr. Sutherland refers to two very handsome young women who were his daughters; others speak of two sons. Dr. Ross, in 1836, refers to his daughter in Port Phillip. He was known to have two lubras in 1835.

We resume the narrative. On two or three occasions he saw ships enter the Bay. At last another vessel came with Batman's party. Buckley knew nothing of the treaty at first, but found the natives arranging to kill three whites and six blacks that were left behind when the "Rebecca" returned to Launceston. This libel upon the blacks is not believed by the founders of the colony. Batman had entire faith in their good will, and never had cause to change his favourable opinion. Dr. Thompson assured the writer that the natives on that side were always kind and tractable, and that from the first he placed the greatest reliance on their friendship. Well, anxious so save his countrymen, as he says, Buckley approached the boat on the shore to warn the inmates, but could find no words to use. One, suspecting him to be a white man, offered him bread, calling it by name. After several efforts to pronounce the word "bread," then he showed W. B. on his arm. Learning the expected return of the schooner, he went back to his sable companions, and excited their cupidity, while he delayed the execution of their project, by persuading them to await the arrival of the ship, that was going to bring lots of pretty things that would be worth stealing. Learning that he might be arrested as an outlaw, he was very solicitous to obtain a free pardon which, through the good offices of Messrs. Batman and Wedge, reached him from Governor Arthur on August 25th, 1835. He states that he was nominated Interpreter, at a salary of £50. He accompanied Sir Richard Bourke and others in tours about the country. But when the difficulties arose with the blacks, he left the place and went to Hobart Town, where he resided for nearly twenty years. For a time employed as a constable, he became assistant storekeeper at the Immigrants' Home, and then gate keeper of the Female Nursery.

He married the widow of an emigrant in March 1840, received a pension of £12 a year in 1850, and then an addition of £40 from the Legislature of Victoria. In January last he was thrown from a vehicle and dangerously wounded. On February 2nd, 1856, he was carried to his last home. The funeral was attended by his son-in-law and Mr. Morgan, the editor of his life as chief mourners.

The inconsistencies of his narrative could be pointed out. He speaks of Batman's family living in a tent at Melbourne, when it was a wodden house. Mr. Fawkner was known to have no friendly feeling toward him. Buckley says, "From some cause or other, and although not knowing much of me, he represented me to be a dangerous character." In fact, Mr. Fawkner gave such an account of his stirring up the blacks, with such expectations of fatal conflicts, that the captain thus written to, exclaims—"I fear these occurrences will prevent my settling in this delightful country." That same letter of the Founder of Melbourne, dated May, 1837, records that Buckley had "several wives among the native women, and a great number of children." Buckley used to say that Mr. Fawkner did not like him because he was a friend of Mr. Batman's, and because he objected to his taking Port Phillip blacks over with him to Launceston. He was certainly attached to Batman: and when the news of his death came to Hobart Town, he threw himself upon his bed and cried bitterly.

Mr. Fawkner has this description of the man. "He stood six feet five inches in his stockings, was not very bulky, nor over-burdened with *nons*. He fell to the level of the blacks, he did not by any means elevate or raise them, or instruct them in any manner. He ran from the settlement on Point Nepean, on the 24th December, 1803, in company with three others. When Buckley first joined the whites at Indented Head, he had totally forgotten his mother tongue; and the first words he spoke in it was a reply to a desire of one J. Green, whether he would not have some bread to eat, and he struggled some time, and then pronounced the word "bread." The Governor Arthur party when news arrived that this runaway had been found, showed favors innumerable upon him. First, in order to obtain all the information that he possessed; and also to prevail upon him to refuse to give any part of his local knowledge to those persons not belonging to the co-partners. Alas! the *lump of matter* was too *mindless* to yield any very useful information. He had always loved his ease, had

travelled but little, and was cheerfully supported by his two gins, or, in other words, by two of the female aborigines. He refused or was unable to account for the fate of the two men that left the camp with him in 1803, indeed, some persons entertained notions on this head that rendered his appearance amongst the white population not very agreeable. And he very soon displayed a spirit of antagonism with the whites; and, in fact, stated one day when hard pressed, that he should rejoice if the whites could be driven away, he did not care how, so that the aborigines could have the country to themselves again."

Those who know Mr. Fawkner's strong opinions upon men and things, and his very independant mode of expressing those opinions, will be less surprised at the harshness of his judgment upon Buckley. Mr. Wedge takes the view of Batman concerning him, saying, "We were indebted to him for the friendly feeling that was maintained with the natives." Mr. Wedge in his report to Government at the close of 1835, gives some other particulars of this strange man's history, which he then obtained from him, but, which do not quite coincide with some other descriptions. He says that Buckley had no children, that he was six feet six inches in height, that he was found on July 12th, that it was not until the lapse of ten or twelve days he could speak tolerably, and that "nothing could exceed the joy he evinced at once more feeling himself a free man, received again within the pale of civilized society." His narrative of the wedding tale is, that when the blacks gave Buckley a wife, he discovered that a dark gentleman was the object of her worship, and at once relinquished his claim upon so faithless a partner; the tribe resented this insult to their judgment, and speared both the lady and her lover.

Mr. Gardiner gives a ludicrous description of his ungainly figure on horseback; no suitable stirrups could be found for his wide feet. His matted hair gave him a very savage appearance. The eldest daughter of Mr. Batman had the honor of making his first shirt, which was of linen, and of enormous dimensions, containing we know not how many yards of stuff, with an awful amount of stitching. But no account of this wonderful hero of Port Phillip story can exceed in interest and truthfulness the following from the journal of an original settler, Nathaniel Goslyn, "the man that helped Wellington to conquer the world," as he tells us, and now a very aged inmate of the Hospital at Geelong, and a worthy object of Colonial kindness. We had per-

mission to copy the precious document, saying that we were "not to take too much of it." We give it, therefore, to the public in its full integrity.

"Mr. Batemans men looked at him and thought he resembled a white man one of them went up to him to examine him found two letters on his arm and saying W for William and B for Burges but never hit on William Buckley he never spoke till at last hearing the English tongue Pronounced so often he burst out and said W for William and B for buckly then they new that he was an Englishman then Mr. Bateman had him taken from thence and Clothed him and had him shaved and cleaned he could scarce walk in shoes for awhile he was asked what became of the other two he would never tell but said they went away and supposed they got killed he was asked how he had lived with the blacks so many years but would scarce say anything if any one would ask him any Questions concerning himself and the blacks you must have question and answer both one time he did say that he was for ten years that he did not know one day from another that they would not kill him some was for killing him and some not for killing him but he said the oldest blacks saved him then Mr. Bateman had a place made for him at the end of a small store that he might keep the blacks from robbing him then what few settlers there was in the country the black went About robbing and killing the white People if they could come at them Privately which they did they killed two of Capt. Swanstons men the first two that was killed then what few settlers there was subscribed and bought A horse saddle and bridle cost 60 guineas and going to give him 60 pounds a year for to ride amongst the blacks and tell them what the white People would do for them if they would be quiet he said no that he would sooner go back to them he said it was the white Peoples fault this latter part I heard Mr. Gillibrand say myself they thought he might go back to them then what mischief he could do so some time after they sent him to Vandimansland from the blacks when buckley when he was first taken from the blacks he was a monster of a man stood 6 foot 3 inches in height and stout in Proportion Wm. Buckley if living his not far from my age."

THE ASSOCIATION AND GOVERNMENT.

On the return of Batman to Van Diemen's Land, he forwarded a report of his voyage and doings, with a map of the country he had hastily observed. It thus commences.—“It occurred to myself and some gentlemen who were associated with me, that inasmuch as the Sydney natives who were living with me had become well acquainted with the English language and manners, and had acquired habits of industry and agricultural pursuits, they might, therefore, be considered partially civilized; and as the available lands in this colony were occupied by flocks of sheep, and fully stocked, it would be a favourable opportunity of opening a direct friendly intercourse with the tribes in the neighbourhood of Port Phillip, and by obtaining from them a grant of a portion of that territory, on equitable principles, not only might the sources of this colony be considerably extended, but the object of civilization be established; and which in process of time would lead to the civilization of a large portion of the aborigines of that extensive country. Here we see the William Penn principle imitated. The English Government may claim a sovereign right over a region, but some deference should be paid to the moral rights of the native inhabitants, however degraded soever they may be. The Association recognized the duty of colonists to elevate and bless the ancient lords of the soil.

The letter thus enters into particulars of the first meeting with the natives, as previously detailed by us. The conclusion of the report we give entire, because of its reference to the celebrated treaty, and the moral basis of the contemplated establishment.

“I have the honor of enclosing herewith a copy of each of the deeds executed by the natives to me, which I confidently trust will most clearly manifest that I have proceeded upon an equitable principle; that my object has not been possession and expulsion, or, what is worse, extermination, but possession and civilization; and the reservation of the annual tribute to those who are owners of the soil, will afford evidence of the sincerity of my professions, in wishing to protect and civilize these tribes of benighted but intelligent people; and I confidently trust that the British Government will duly appreciate the treaty which I have made with these tribes, and will not in any manner molest the arrangements I have made, but that I shall receive

the support and encouragement, of not only the Local Government, but that of the British Government, in carrying the objects into effect.

"The quantity of stock exported this year will be at least 20,000 breeding ewes; and one of the leading stipulations will be, that none but married men of good character, with their families, will be sent either as overseers or servants, so that by no possibility any personal injury will be offered to the natives or their families; and it is also intended, for the purpose of preserving due order and morals, that a minister or catechist shall be attached to the establishment at the expense of the Association."

Such was the first public announcement of the project of colonizing Port Phillip. It is easy to throw contempt upon the motives of men, and to merge assumptions of benevolence into mere selfishness. But let us look at the persons forming the association; enthusiasts they may be, but they were no set of needy, unknown adventurers. They were men of station, education and influence. Several of them had been chivalrously identified with the interests of the aborigines, and given abundant illustration of their love for their darker brothers. Many believed in their benevolent intentions. Governors acknowledged their purity of motive. James Backhouse, the Quaker Missionary, the companion of the excellent George Washington Walker, thus gives his testimony—"At the first settlement of Port Phillip, a party of benevolent people attempted making a treaty, &c." Speaking of Batman in 1837, he writes: "He continues to take a deep interest among the aborigines." It is idle to say that the projectors of the settlement were indifferent to their own welfare; we contend only that they were sincere in their wish to deal fairly and kindly with the natives. The idea of making a treaty with naked savages has been treated as a capital joke. The poor creatures have long enough been regarded as something of baboons. It is enough, however, to state that they who know them best, and that in their wild condition, as Sturt, Mitchell, Kennedy, Robinson, Batman, and the Missionaries, had the highest appreciation of their good sense as well as good feeling. Though they understand not legal forms, they well knew the nature of the instrument they were called upon to sign. They knew about boundaries, presentation of soil, and reception of material equivalents. The folly was on the part of the gentlemen, in supposing that Government would ratify such an arrangement. It is true they had a precedent. The

reigning Sovereign, William IV. had acknowledged the rights of the Maories of New Zealand, and had sent them a flag, as a token of their independant position. But there is this difference in the two cases ;— in the one we have 100,000 skilful warriors ; in the other, a few vagrant, forest tribes.

But it is time that we present to the reader this extraordinary document, the most curious in the archives of Port Phillip story.

“ Know all persons, that we, three brothers Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, being the three principal chiefs, and also Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip, Monmarmalar, being the chiefs of a certain native tribe called Dutigallar, situate at and near Port Phillip, called by us, the above mentioned chiefs, Irausnoo and Geelong, being possessed of the tract of land hereinafter mentioned, for and in consideration of 20 pair of blankets, 30 knives, 12 tomahawks, 10 looking glasses, 12 pair of scissors, 50 handkerchiefs, 12 red shirts, four flannel jackets, four suits of clothes, and 50 lbs of flour, delivered to us by John Batman, residing in Van Dieman's Land, Esquire, but at present sojourning with us and our tribe, do, for ourselves, our heirs, and successors, give, grant enfeoff and confirm unto the said John Batman, his heirs and assigns, all that tract of country situate and being in the Bay of Port Phillip, known by the name of Indented Head, but called by us Geelong, extending across from Geelong harbour about due south, for 10 miles, more or less to the head of Port Phillip, taking in the whole neck or tract of land containing about 100,000 acres, as the same hath been before the execution of these presents delineated and marked out by us, according to the custom of our tribe, by certain marks made upon the trees growing along the boundaries of the said tract of land, with all advantages belonging thereto, unto and to the use of the said John Batman, his heirs, said tract of land, and place thereon sheep and cattle, yielding and delivering to us and assigns, to the meaning and intent that the said John Batman, his heirs and assigns, may occupy and possess the same, and our heirs and successors the yearly rent or tribute of 50 pair of blankets, 50 knives, 50 tomahawks, 50 pair of scizzors, 50 looking-glasses, 20 suits of slops or clothing, and two tons of flour. In witness thereof we Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, the three principal chiefs, and also Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip and Monmarmalar the chiefs of the said tribe have hereunto affixed our seals to

these presents, and have signed the same. Dated according to the christian era, this 6th day of June 1835.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us, the same having been fully and properly interpreted and explained to the said chiefs.

(Signed)
JAMES GUMM,
WM. TODD,

JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
COOLOLOCK, his x mark.
BUNGARIE, his x mark.
YANYAN, his x mark.
MONMARMALAR, his x mark.

Signed JOHN BATMAN.

Be it remembered that on the day and year within written, possession and delivery of the tract of land within mentioned was made by the within named Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip, Monmarmalar, chiefs of the tribes of natives called Dutigallar Geelong, to the within named John Batman, by the said chiefs, taking up part of the soil, and delivering the same to said John Batman in the name of the whole.

In presence of
(Signed)
JAMES GUMM,
ALEXANDER THOMSON.
WM. TODD.

JAGAJAGA,
JAGAJAGA,
JAGAJAGA,
COOLOLOCK,
BUNGARIE,
YANYAN,
MOOWHIP,
MONMARMALAR,

Know all persons, that we, three brothers, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, being the principal chiefs, and also Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip, and Monmarmalar, also being the chiefs of a certain native tribe called Dutigallar, situate at and near Port Phillip, called by us the above mentioned chiefs Tramoo, being possessed of the tract of land thereafter-mentioned, for, and in consideration of 20 pair blankets, 30 tomahawks, 100 knives, 50 pair of scizzors, 30 looking glasses, 200 handkerchiefs, and 100 lbs. of flour, and six shirts, delivered to us by John Batman, residing in Van Diemen's Land, Esquire, but at present sojourning with us and our tribe, do, for ourselves, our

heirs and successors, give, grant, enfeoff and confirm unto the said John Batman, his heirs and assigns, all that tract of country situate and being in Port Phillip, running from the branch of the river at the top of the port, about 7 miles from the mouth of the river, 40 miles north-east, and from thence west 40 miles across Tramoo downs or plains, and from thence south-south-west across Mount Vilumarnatar to Geelong Harbour, at the head of the same, and containing about 500,000, more or less acres, as the same hath been before the execution of these presents delineated and marked out by us, according to the custom of our tribe, by certain marks made upon the trees growing along the boundaries of the said tract of land, to hold the said tract of land, with all advantages belonging thereto, unto and to the use of the said John Batman, his and heirs assigns for ever, to the intent that the said John Batman, his heirs, and assigns, may occupy and possess the said tract of land, and place thereon sheep and cattle, yielding and delivering unto us, our heirs and successors, the yearly rent or tribute of 100 pair blankets, 100 knives, 100 tomahawks, 50 suits of clothing, 50 looking-glasses, 50 pair scissors, and five tons of flour. In witness thereof, we Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, the above-mentioned principal chiefs, and Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip and Monmarmalar, the chiefs of the said tribe, have hereunto affixed our seals to these presents, and have signed the same. Dated according to the christian era, this 6th day of June 1835.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of us, the same having been fully, and properly interpreted and explained to the said chiefs.

(Signed)
 JAMES GUMM,
 ALEXANDER THOMPSON,
 WM. TODD.

Signed on the
 6th June, 1835.

JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
 JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
 JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
 COOLOLOCK his x mark.
 BUNGARIE, his x mark.
 YANYAN, his x mark.
 MOOWHIP, his x mark.

Banks of Batman's Creek,

JOHN BATMAN.

Be it remembered, that on the day and year within written, possession and delivery of the tract of land within mentioned, was made by the within named Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip, and Monmarmalar, chiefs of the tribes

of natives called Duttigallar Geelong, to the within-named John Batman, by the said chiefs taking up part of the soil, and delivering the same to said John Batman in the name of the whole.

	JAGAJAGA,
	JAGAJAGA,
	JAGAJAGA,
In presence of	COOLOOLOCK,
(Signed)	BUNGARIE,
JAMES GUMM,	YANYAN,
ALEXANDER THOMSON,	MOOWHIP,
WM. TODD.	MONMARMALAR.

The territory thus purchased included all the western hill of Port Phillip Bay. There were three brothers of the name of Jagajaga, remarkable for the height of their stature, and the nobleness of their disposition. They had recently lost a brother, and when Batman arrived, there was such a similarity in his appearance, even to the loss of a particular tooth, with that of the deceased relative, that he was welcomed with cordiality, and treated with friendliness. The youngest had a great affection for the stranger, and for years hung about his person with fondness and devotion.

Now came the tug of war with Governors and Governments. It was a monstrous act for a number of private gentlemen, headed by a native born Anglo-Australian, to go to a wild shore and treat with savages for the occupation of land. We shall proceed to give the details of this literary and official campaign in chronological order. It was no contemptible contest. The associationists were intelligent and influential men, with the energy and independance of colonists. Opposed to them were the various developments of officialdom, the jealousy of other settlers, and the indignation of the press of New South Wales at this intrusion of Van Diemen's Landers. Batman's letter to Governor Arthur was dated, Hobart Town, June 25th, 1835. To this came a reply from the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Montague, of July 3rd. He at once pronounces that "Port Phillip is not within the jurisdiction of this Colony." As to the treaty, allusion is made to the recent act of the Crown, confirming authority upon the South Australian Colonization Society to settle upon the coast of New Holland, without making any reference to the supposed rights of the aborigines. He then adds this warning,—“It would not be prudent in the gentlemen

associated with you to incur expenses in any reliance upon a confirmation from the Crown of your title to the land." Another precedent is mentioned; "In reference to the application of Mr. Henty, to be allowed under certain conditions to locate a grant of land on the southern coast of New Holland, His Majesty's Government declined to accede to his proposal."

The day after, July 4th, Colonel Arthur communicates with Home through the Hon. Spring Rice. He enters into the history of Port Phillip; that it was first visited by the first Governor of Van Diemen's Land: that it was settled by persons from Van Diemen's Land; that it was near Van Diemen's Land; and he then urges that it be placed under the Government of Van Diemen's Land. He moreover mentions that "The settlement of this district would unquestionably be highly advantageous to Van Diemen's Land." Then comes his application: "It would afford me, therefore, great pleasure, were the facilities which might be afforded by this government, rendered availing in the settlement of this very valuable territory, which might, I submit, with a view to economy, be placed temporarily under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land." His remarks upon our founder in that despatch are honorable. "Mr. Batman," he writes, "is an enterprising settler. He has acted with prudence as well as humanity in making it his first effort to conciliate the native tribe with whom he negotiated, and I trust that the good feeling which he appears to have established will be perpetuated. Were a liberal grant of land given him in the country he has explored, I think the gift would be well bestowed." Yet Arthur doubted the validity of Batman's agreement, shrewdly urging that the land had been taken possession of by Colonel Collins in 1830, and then again by Captain Wright, at Western Port, in 1826; and that the same people seen by Batman were seen by Messrs. Hume and Hovell in 1824, "Who," says the Governor, "distinguished it (the country) by different names, a circumstance which would render the original ownership doubtful, even if it were true in contemplation of law, that a migratory savage tribe, consisting of, perhaps, from 30 to 40 individuals, roaming over an almost unlimited extent of country, could acquire such a property in the soil, as to be able to convey it so effectually, as to confer upon the purchaser any right of possession which would be recognized in our Courts of Law."

But now pours in the levelling broadsider, the powerful engine of Government, a *Proclamation*, to check the hopes and frustrate the plans of the association. Whoever concerned, out comes Sir Richard Bourke, the Governor of New South Wales, with a fierce denunciation of trespassers upon his lawful territory. Six weeks had passed since the application went forth that Port Phillip be placed under the wing of Hobart Town, and that time was sufficient for the news to be carried to the Sydney ruler. Wrathful at the interference of his subordinate Lieutenant at the Derwent, he issues forth the

PROCLAMATION.

“By His Excellency Major-General Sir Richard Bourke, K. C. B. commanding His Majesty’s forces, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c.

“Whereas it hath been represented to me that divers of His Majesty’s subjects have taken possession of lands of the Crown, within the limits of this Colony, under the pretence of a treaty, bargain, or contract, for the purchase thereof, with the aboriginal natives, now, therefore, I, the Governor, in virtue and in exercise of the power and authority in me vested, do hereby proclaim and notify to all His Majesty’s subjects and others, whom it may concern, that every such treaty, bargain and contract, with the aboriginal natives, as aforesaid, for the possession, title or claim, to any lands lying and being within the limits of the Government of the Colony of New South Wales, as the same are laid down and defined by His Majesty’s Commission, that is to say, from the Northern Cape, or extremity of the coast, called Cape York, in the latitude of 10 degrees 37 minutes south, to the southern extremity of the said territory of New South Wales, or Wilson’s Promontory, in the latitude of 39 degrees $\frac{1}{2}$ min. south, and embracing all the country inland to the westward, as far as the 129th degree of east longitude, reckoning from the meridian of Greenwich, including all the islands adjacent to the Pacific Ocean, within the latitude aforesaid, and including also Norfolk Island, is void, as against the rights of the Crown; and that all persons who shall be found in possession of any such lands as aforesaid, without the licence or authority of His Majesty’s Government, for such purpose first had and obtained, will be considered as trespassers, and liable to be dealt with

in like manner as other intruders upon the vacant lands of the Crown within the said Colony."

"Given under my hand and seal, at Government House, Sydney, this 26th day of August, 1835.

(Signed,)

"RICHARD BOURKE.

(By His Excellency's command)

(Signed,)

"ALEXANDER M'LEAY.

"GOD SAVE THE KING!"

When the association found no prospect of support from the Colonial Government, they immediately sought sympathy from the Home Authorities. Upon this, Arthur wrote a despatch to Lord Glenelg, the Secretary for the Colonies, August 28th, 1835. After being honest enough to give a good character to the members of the association as, respectable, and so forth, he exclaims,—“I cannot avoid expressing the hope that this fine tract of country may not be ceded to them, to be converted into a sheep walk and cattle run by absentee proprietors.” The Governor had not then received a copy of the Sydney Proclamation; he, therefore, still talks doubtfully of the ownership of the district, when he recommends, that, if not included within New South Wales, a Commandant, a surveyor, a missionary, and some soldiers, be sent from Van Diemen's Land, and charged upon its land fund, in order, as he prudently observes, that “the country may be occupied without those sad reverses which checked emigration to Swan River.” The counsel was good; but the Commandant or Superintendent was not appointed till four years after. In the meantime the association sought the opinion of the highest legal authorities in Britain, as to the validity of their treaty with the aborigines. Mr. Burge was then considered the best counsel upon Colonial law, and to him, as well as to Messrs. Pemberton and Follet, the question was referred.

After the citation of a number of cases, chiefly in connexion with English treaties with the American Indians, we have the following;—

“I am of opinion that the Crown can legally oust the association from their possession. The enterprize manifested by the expedition, the respectability of the parties engaged in it, and the equitable and judicious manner in which they conducted the intercourse with the native tribes, and made their purchase, afford a strong ground for anticipating that the Crown would, in conformity with its practise on other occasions, on a proper application, give its sanction to, and con-

firm the purchase which the association has made. Lord Hardwicke, in the case which has been referred to, expressed a very strong opinion that the possession of persons making these settlements ought to receive the fullest protection. There is no ground for considering that the lands comprised in this purchase are affected by the Act erecting South Australia into a Province, 4 and 5 W. IV; c. 75. They are clearly not within the boundaries assigned to the territory, which is the subject of the Act, and, therefore, the Crown is not precluded from confirming the purchase. I am of opinion that the association should make an application to the Government for a confirmation of the above purchase, and accompany it with a full communication, of not only all the documents now laid before me, but of every other circumstance connected with the acquisition."

"WILLIAM BURGE, *Linc. Inn.*

"16th Jan. 1836."

"We have perused the extremely able and elaborate opinion of Mr. Burge, and entirely concur in the conclusions at which he has arrived upon each of the queries submitted to us."

"THOS. PEMBERTON,

"W. W. FOLLETT.

"Jan 21, 1836."

Who does not see the propriety of this decision? Legally the treaty with the natives was valueless, as no precedent existed of a permanent sanction of such a procedure. But though the agreement might not be legalized, there was a recognition of such persons' claim to the favor of the Crown for a grant of such lands. William Penn had received his charter when to secure his possessions from molestation and to satisfy his own conscientious scruples, he chose to enter into that famous treaty with the Indians. Again, if the Crown had been pleased to confer the right of possession of an enormous territory in Southern Australia to one private association, that had rendered no previous service, had made no discovery, and had taken no initiative in settlement, how much greater expectations of Royal consideration might not be indulged by the Port Phillip Association, that had absolutely located themselves upon the new shore, and had conducted themselves so fairly and honourably toward the inhabitants. But there was this difference between the two companies; one was an

organization of members of parliament and distinguished British gentlemen, the other was merely a confederacy of a few colonists in the obscure and penal settlement of Van Diemen's Land.

Governor Bourke, in his despatch to Lord Glenelg, October 10th, 1835, gives his opinion upon the subject. He would charitably view the Association as poor, helpless creatures ; for he writes, "The undertaking must prove a total failure, unless supported by the interference and protection of government." He continues, "The question is simply this ; how may this government turn to the best advantage of the colony a state of things it cannot wholly interdict ; it may be found practicable, by means of the sale of lands in situations peculiarly advantageous, however distant from other localities, to procure the means of diminishing the evil of dispersion, and by establishing townships and ports." Then follows his suggestion to His Majesty's Ministers. "I propose, therefore, to let those lands to their present occupiers, being of good character, upon yearly leases at a nominal rent." Urging promptitude of arrangement, he is pleased to say, "In consideration of the capital expended by Mr. Batman and his associates, I am inclined to recommend so early an occupation of Port Phillip."

It is time now to expect the decision of the Home Cabinet. Lord Glenelg's reply to Governor Arthur is dated January 23rd, 1836. What says he ? "All schemes for making settlements by private individuals or companies in the unlocated districts of Australia have of late years been discouraged by His Majesty's Government, as leading to fresh establishments, involving the mother country in an indefinite expense, and exposing both the natives and the new settlers to many dangers and calamities." This settles the question of occupancy. But the heart of this benevolent christian nobleman is manifestly interested when he gives utterance to this sentiment : "The conduct of Mr. Batman toward the natives has been such as to make me regret that I feel it my duty not to advise His Majesty to sanction the proceedings of that gentleman and his associates." As to Colonel Arthur's suggestion of the annexation of our province to his island, the cautious statesman merely says that he will consider the question of placing Port Phillip under Van Dieman's Land, but that he "already sees it open to some very serious objections." The hopes of the Association are blighted, the ambition of the Governor is ungrati-

despatch to Sir Richard Bourke, dated April 13th, 1836, does the feelings of the Sydney ruler when he writes, "I consult very ill for the real welfare of that helpless aboriginal race, by recognizing in them any right to alienate to private adventurers the land of the colony." The great bugbear of that day was the Wakefield doctrine of centralization. Bourke was too sensible a man openly to oppose the crotchets of his superiors, but his manner of dealing with the squatting question evidently softened down the prejudices of Lord Glenelg, for his lordship writes, "if my information be correct, the southern half of that great region (the eastern side) presents a physical impediment to the close concentration of the inhabitants, with which it would be only futile to contend by human law. The age of manufacturing industry is of course remote." The mind of the minister is evidently not satisfied upon this point of settlement, when we find him inditing, "It may yet admit of serious doubt whether the settlers of Port Phillip have not in reality given birth to undertakings, which deliberate reflection would have recommended rather than discouraged."

But the Association died hard. Major Mercer was sent home to plead their cause. His first communication to Lord Glenelg is dated from Dryden House, by Edinburgh, January 26th, 1836. He thus commences: "In the capacity of shareholder and as agent for the 'Geelong and Dutigalla Association,' &c. His application is, of course, for a confirmation of the treaty. He declares their intention to have been 'The promotion of a nucleus of a free and useful colony, founded upon principles of conciliation and civilization, of philanthropy, morality and temperance, without danger of its ever becoming onerous to the mother country, and calculated to insure the well-being and comfort of the natives.'" The proposition he submitted was, that a grant of land be issued in the names of John Batman and Charles Swanston, Esquires, as those gentlemen had executed regular deeds, binding themselves to act generally for the members of the Association. The Major predicts that, if obstructions were now raised by government, "the country would be, if ever, occupied hereafter by the extermination of the aboriginal inhabitants alone." Certain it is, that only in these colonies settled originally by private companies, as New Zealand and South Australia, have the interests of the natives been duly regarded and their rights more especially respected.

The answer to this appeal comes from Sir George Grey, February 15th, as directed by Lord Glenelg. It runs thus,—“The territory is a part of New South Wales, being comprised within the limits laid down in the commission of Governor Sir Richard Bourke.” On the 16th of March, Mr. Mercer tells the government that this nominal extension of the jurisdiction of New South Wales was all well with the fear of French colonization there, as well as to avoid the formation of another expensive penal settlement, but that “The Association profess their wish to be a free Colony, without pecuniary sacrifice to the mother country.” He then proposed that a Crown grant for the tract should be bestowed, subject to a quit rent sufficient to defray charge of the establishment of a Superintendent and other officers appointed by the Crown. If this grant included 750,000 acres, the petitioners would pay a quit rent of £1,406 5s. They were bound already to pay the natives an annual tribute to the amount of £320, and they were under an engagement for a salary of £180 to Dr. Thomson as surgeon and catechist. The correspondence was peremptorily closed by the government reply on March 30th, in which it is stated that “The disposal of land at a quit rent has been generally abandoned on the most ample experience of the many and insuperable difficulties with which it is attended.” All that could be promised was, that it was the intention to instruct the Governor of New South Wales to appoint magistrates and other officers for the government of the settlement, and to sell the land at a reduced upset price for the advantage of the early settlers.

Baffled thus in every way, and placed only upon a level with other settlers, the association were compelled simply to solicit some compensation for their outlay. Messrs. Swanston and Gellibrand, accompanied by Mr. Dobson, the Hobart Town Solicitor, waited upon Governor Bourke at Sydney. Dr. Lang in his “Colonist” of Oct. 20th, 1836, thus records the visit—“Messrs. Swanston, Gellibrand and Dobson have arrived here for the purpose, it is said, of laying before Government the claims of the various squatters of Port Phillip; we are of opinion that the hardy pioneers of our antipodean wilderness deserve *some* reward for their enterprize, though not the extravagant one they look forward to; for, if the preposterous claims of the gentlemen were acceded to by the Government, Sydney would not contain the multitude of squatters and cattle stealers, who would immediately

est claims to compensation: and the fair and fertile the Morumbidgee would be overwhelmed by a locust—at the shadow of a right to so enviable a preference.” Amidst such jealousy and prejudice, justice was denied founders. At last, when the patience of our friends was exhausted, and they had sold for a trifle their shares in the association, after paying all expenses, to Messrs. Swanston and Learmonth, it was adjudicated that the following compensation shall be made;—the upset price, at five shillings an acre, was to be remitted upon the sale of Port Phillip land, up to the sum of £7000. At the sale of February 13th, 1838, held at Sydney, an agent bid on behalf of the association and purchased country lots from 47-54, 56-57, 59-60, situated to the westward of Geelong, for the sum of £7919 7s. “of which there were,” says the Sydney Gazette, “7000 allowed them in the first formation of the settlement.” The writer has the assurance of James Simpson, Esq., and Dr. Thomson, that the expenses altogether considerably exceeded the amount thus allowed off their purchase.

But what has been done for Batman, the originator and leader of the movement? It is true that he made money in the early days, and that before his death, in May 6th, 1839, he had secured much valuable property in Melbourne; yet an imperfect will gave the wealth to lawyers, and his family were wholly neglected. As it is undeniable that to John Batman’s enterprize we owe the settlement of this wonderful Colony, is it grateful, is it just, to disregard the memory of his services, and leave his very grave unnoticed? While we bestow £5000 upon a person who discovered gold in another province, and thousands upon a lady who promoted emigration to the continent, can we not spare something for the memory of the Founder of the Colony? We would venture to hope, that in the good time coming, under our New Constitution, when all social evils are to be rectified, and all imaginable good is to be performed for Victoria, that one thing at least will be remembered,—JUSTICE TO BATMAN.

CHAPTER VI.

PROGRESS OF THE SETTLEMENT.

For some time Port Phillip was only a sheep walk. Twelve months after the first location there were 15,000 sheep, but not two hundred settlers. It was thought to be a better home for quadrupeds than men. The natives were mistrusted. Several murders of shepherds had already occurred. Then the cooler heads viewed the denunciatory proclamation of Governor Bourke, and feared to trust their property there as well as their lives. To be exposed to constant predatory attack, without the prospect of constabulary protection, and with the knowledge that they were acting in defiance of Constituted Authority, deterred many from crossing the Straits. The sage Governor of the island echoed the forebodings, when, addressing his council, in April 1836, he says, "How far the future opening of that territory to the enterprize of immigrants, when His Majesty's Government shall be pleased to sanction it, may affect the landed interests in this Colony, it is at present impossible to determine. Its tendency, if considered irrelatively, must apparently be, if not generally to lower, at least sensibly to retard the future increase of rent.—Its proximity to Van Diemen's Land, however, must render the future settlement of the territory in question a matter of the highest interest to the inhabitants of this Colony, as regards its commercial, as well as its agricultural relations." When, however, the Government acknowledged the settlement and promised legal possession, and when, also, simultaneously there came the brave news of Mitchell's *Australia Felix*, a rush took place. Dr. Lang has thus described the impulse—"It turned the heads of half the Colony of Van Diemen's Land. It almost imme-

diately lowered the value of land throughout the island, nearly fifty per cent, from the general desire it induced to be off to the Eldorado. Every settler's son who had a spark of life in him, besought his father for his portion of goods,—I mean of sheep and cattle—that he was fairly entitled to, and hied himself off with them to Port Phillip." The writer of these records remembers well many years ago the fair sisters of Tasmania rehearsing their grievances about the "nasty Port Phillip," that took all the marriagable young men away, and left them, the lovely flowers, to waste their sweetness in the desert air ;—desert indeed of human sympathies.

FLOCKS AND FLOCK-MASTERS.

The courageous men who first dashed into the forests of Port Phillip, or stood exposed, alone, in its vast plains and solitudes, deserve our applause. It is a very different thing now coming out hence, and taking up our quarters in a comfortable Melbourne Hotel, or dropping down upon a rural retreat with its orchards in full growth, to that early time, when the gun was ever in the hand of the stockman, when fifty miles lay between one and his neighbour, and when supplies were with such difficulty obtained, and retained.

There were two landing places for flocks in the Bay,—Gellibrand's Point, now Williams Town, and Point Henry, on the Geelong side. One old shepherd told us that the air of these places was not filled with rosy odours, the shore being strewn with dead carcasses. The poor pent-up animals, exhausted from confinement in the vessel, and want of water, would rush readily into the sea to drink, drop, and die in heaps. The association's 500 sheep arrived in the barque *Norval*, Capt. Coltish, at Point Gellibrand, Oct. 26th, 1835. The general rate of freightage once averaged five shillings a head. A roaring trade followed. It was sheep versus flour cargo. A Sydney paper alluded to our dilemma: "The settlers," it observes, "complain of the difficulty of getting supplies from Launceston, as the owners of vessels from that place to Port Phillip, find the transport of live stock more profitable than goods." Another trip of the *Norval* was not so propitious. Mr. Ferguson, as Capt. Swanston's agent, was arranging for a station to receive 1000 sheep per *Norval*, in February 1836, chartered to land at Point Gellibrand as before. The owner, Mr. Read, of Launceston, is said to have had a valuable cargo of wattle bark awaiting

him in Western Port. His geographical ignorance led him into the mistake of the contiguity of the two places, and he sent his vessel straight to Western Port, with orders to drive the sheep across to the Yarra. This overland trip through that thirsty, rugged country, reduced the flock from 1000 to 75. Legal proceedings are said to have cost the owner of the vessel £1000.

As to the distribution of flockmasters, we find that in the primitive days the country over the Yarra was not much regarded. The favorite spots were Indented Head, the Exe or Werribee, and the Salt Water River. Messrs. Simpson and Wedge had their flocks together by the Exe ; so had Richard Wedge and John Woods of Snake Banks, each having his own brand, but uniting for mutual protection. Capt. Lonsdale purchased 200 lambs of Mr. Batman at two guineas each, and ran them over Emerald Hill. Poor Franks of Greenponds was at the foot of Mt. Cotterell. Solomon, the nephew of Judah Solomon, Esq., of the Temple, Hobart Town, managed for his brother-in-law Mr. Cotterell, at the Salt Water, near Melbourne. Batman's head station was on a fine hill west of Flemington. John Aitkin, a managing partner for Mr. Bryant, went up to the country called after his name. Michael Connolly became his neighbour. Mr. Malcolm was then agent for Mr. John Sinclair, of near Launceston. Roadknight was on the Barrabool Hills ; Fisher, for the Derwent Company, was on the Barwon, near where Dr. Thomson afterwards had his station ; and Prout and Norman McLeod were on Indented Head. Hugh Murray, Morris, Carter and Lloyd Brothers joined together with their flocks, and went up to the wild country of Lake Colac, where they had enough to do to maintain their position, from constant disturbances with the natives. Thorneloe managed for the flock of Colonel Arthur and Mr. Colonial Secretary Montague ; Russell for the Clyde Company of Tasmania ; Dr. Clarke for Mr. Gellibrand. Messrs. Cowie, Steiglitz, Austin and Stead were early settlers westward. Mr. James Smith was managing partner of a grazing concern, of which Mr. McKillop of Van Diemen's Land was principal. Mr. John Gardiner, formerly of the Van Diemen's Land Bank, was the first settler with stock beyond the Yarra. The adventurous Hawdon first opened the route to Dandenong, and squatted there. McIntyre pitched upon the flats of Western Port ; being so far out of the world, as to be three months without seeing an individual. The crossing of the Yarra at the Melbourne Falls was always dangerous,

especially to sheep. Mr. McIntyre discovered the excellent ford at what is now called Dight's Mills. Mr. Gardiner's station in 1836 and 1837 took up all the country on both sides of the Yarra for many miles. Afterwards Wallpool and Gogg ran cattle in Prahran; and Glass, a friend of Mr. John Walker of Hobart Town, occupied for a while Boorandara, to be succeeded by McDonald, Balfour and Connell. Bolden went to Port Fairy in 1836. Howie settled under Mt. Macedon, at about the Bush Inn; Brock was south of him, and Sams was on Jackson's Creek. Mr. Ebdon was very early located at lovely Carlsruhe, and Mr. Yaldwyn at Kyneton. Captain Hepburn of the Loddon was managing partner of Captain Coghill of Sydney.

The first overlander with stock from Sydney was Mr. John Gardiner. After visiting the country towards the close of 1835, in company with Buckley, Messrs. Gellibrand, Malcolm, Leake, and Robertson, he went up to Sydney, and purchased cattle at a certain rate of Mr. Hawdon. Not doubting his exploring powers, because possessed of directions from Capt. Hovell, but mistrusting his capability of managing the stock, he arranged to give Mr. Hawdon double price for half of the cattle going, on condition of receiving his company and aid. In three weeks they travelled from the Murrumbidgee to the Yarra. Mr. Gardiner's custom was to rise early and ride ahead, with chart and compass, and look for water. Then he hurried back, and conducted the cattle to their next halt. The overlanders were agreeably surprized one day to meet the returning party of Major Mitchell's expedition. Strange meeting this in the new country,—the homeward bound discoverers and the inward bound settlers. Numbers of natives were seen, who were good humoured and inoffensive. Occasionally they would call out "Batman,—Batman." Once a very fine young woman passed by; tall, well formed, majestic, with Caucasian face, and very light complexion. Considerable difficulty was experienced in crossing the Broken River. The Yarra Falls were crossed in January 1836. Mr. Gardiner had his first head station on Gardiner's Creek, so called; but following some stray cattle he saw the rich pastures of the Upper Yarra, and removed there. His companions Messrs. Hovell and Hepburn returned to Sydney in a whale boat. Messrs. Ryrie and Ebdon followed soon after along this same route of Mr. Gardiner's.

Horses were not numerous in early times. Mr. Fawcner hired out steeds to inspecting visitors. Much importance was therefore atta-

ched to the raising of this useful animal. The early newspapers contain splendid advertisements of the accomplishments of certain paternal quadrupeds. It was with a view to reduce the puffery of some parties that the following notice appeared in the papers of 1839. "ELDORADO. Mr. Humbug'em announces to the flock-masters of Port Phillip, that this noble animal, combining every degree of beauty, with every trait of docility, generosity and spirit, late the property of Sir Dandenong Dashabit, will render his services during the present season."—"The pedigree is enrolled on imperishable vellum, amid the records of the Sheik Al Hassan. It can be traced to Alborak, the steed of the Prophet Mahomet, which being interpreteth, meaneth, 'a little faster than lightning.' The groom, being a gentleman's servant, is prohibited receiving a fee. Eldorado will serve an unlimited number of mares. No tick."

GOVERNMENT :—STEWART, SIMPSON, LONSDALE, LATROBE.

At first every one did what was right in his own eyes. The earliest notification of authority was in March, 1836, when the newly arrived Dr. Thomson, a magistrate on the Hobart Town side, was solicited by Mr. Fawcner to adjudicate upon a question at issue between Mr. Batman's brother and himself. Dr. Thomson is not alone in his plaudits of the law and order loving popular advocate of Melbourne. When the Governor at Sydney heard that in spite of his proclamatory fulminations, the people would go over to Port Phillip, he directed M. Stewart, magistrate of Goulbourne, to proceed to the settlement, and report thereupon. That gentleman arrived at the Yarra, June 1, 1836, in the revenue cutter *Prince George*. The principal settlers met in Mr. Batman's parlour on the hill. A proposition was then carried, that, until the arrival of proper constituted authority, Mr. James Simpson, formerly magistrate at Campbell Town, Van Diemen's Land, be requested to act as Arbitrator of the Settlement. It was also agreed to offer a reward of five pounds a head for every wild dog, that animal making sad ravages among the sheep. A memorial was then drawn up and signed, requesting His Excellency Sir Richard Bourke to send them a Police Magistrate, and to afford them adequate protection.

On Oct. 1st, 1836, the *Rattle-snake*, Capt. Hobson, rode into the harbour, bearing our first legal functionary and organ of the Govern-

ment, Captain Lonsdale. Formerly attached to the 4th regiment, stationed at Sydney, he had entered the civil service as a Police Magistrate. He was accompanied by Lieutenant King and 30 military; Mr. Howson, the constable, with some convicts as labourers; Mr. Webb, as Custom House Officer; and a surveying staff of Messrs. Russel, Darke and D'Arcy. Mr. Batman was loyally prepared to afford Capt Lonsdale every assistance, and immediately offered part of his house for the use of that gentleman and his family. The reign of Capt. Lonsdale was as calm as his own temperament. He suffered no trifles to interfere with his equanimity, no cares to ruffle his habitual serenity. His moral conduct is unblemished. At the termination of his supremacy, and when he received his nomination under Mr. Latrobe, as Police Magistrate of Melbourne, a testimonial was presented by his admirers. The Sydney Gazette states that it was given for "the ability, zeal, and success, with which that officer has discharged those duties, and laboured to develop the resources of that important settlement, under the peculiar difficulties attending its first formation and very rapid progress."

In March, 1837, the *Rattlesnake* again anchored in our waters, bringing as a visitor the distinguished Governor Bourke. Born at Limerick in Ireland in 1777, he entered the 1st Foot Guards in 1798, and received a wound in both jaws while serving in Holland. In 1806 he was at the siege of Monte Video, and afterwards fought in the Peninsula. He was next promoted to be Lieutenant Governor of the Eastern District of Cape Colony. Subsequently he was nominated to the Governorship of Australia in 1831, and received honors as General Sir Richard Bourke. As a ruler he was firm, vigorous and independent. He wrought no small service for his government. He left Sydney in 1837, and died at his native town in 1855.

The colonists met his Excellency on the sod butted ground of the unnamed city. In their address they intimate that "It is very important that the sites of towns and other preliminary arrangements should be speedily and efficiently determined, and we congratulate ourselves that those will be effected under your Excellency's personal superintendence." The reply was gracious;---"In the belief that its future progress will realize the sanguine expectations entertained regarding it, I have felt very strongly the necessity of fixing at once those points of occupation, which are obviously of the greatest impor-

tance, in order to prevent the waste of capital, and to give to the industry of the settlers a permanent direction." * * * "The difficulty of introducing all the advantages of order and society into new and remote settlements is well known; but I trust that in the present instance the praiseworthy disposition evinced by the inhabitants will continue to characterize the district, and to aid the efforts of government in securing its peace and prosperity." He thus responds, also, to an address from the settlers of the Western District;—"The principal object of this visit is to accelerate the means by which those who have transferred or are about to transfer capital and stock to this district, may be enabled to convert without further delay an uncertain and insecure occupation into a legal possession." After approving of the site of Melbourne, and taking a trip with Buckley to Mount Macedon and Geelong, our distinguished guest departed.

Joseph Latrobe, Esq., arrived, Oct. 1st, 1839. The son of a Moravian missionary, the brother of an English clergyman, our late Governor had all the advantages of judicious training; his own exemplary moral character, his reverence for religion, and his desire to promote the real good of his fellows, evidence the effects of that training. For a time he was travelling tutor to a foreign Count. His works upon America, &c., gained him much applause and valuable friends. He became united to an excellent and intelligent Swiss lady. Appointed to a Government office in the West Indies, he obtained the confidence of the Home officials, and was subsequently nominated Superintendent of Port Phillip, under the Governor of New South Wales. Gazetted in Sydney, July 30th, he took the oaths of office on Sept. 10th. His district was declared to extend southward of latitude 36 deg., and between the 141st and 146th degrees of longitude; that is, from the Murray at Maiden's Punt and Lake Hindmarsh southward; and from the South Australian boundary to a line across the Broken river and Yarra sources to the sea, a little east of Western Port. Gipps Land, so called, was then unknown, as it was not thought necessary to provide for the contingency of its discovery and settlement.

The *Pyramus* entered the harbour, and landed our first genuine ruler (for he was invested with the powers of a Lieut. Governor), under a salute of 9 guns, Oct 1, 1839. At that time our citizens were gathered principally round the mart of the Auction Company, late Montefiore's Chambers, the north-west corner of Market Square.

The rain poured in torrents, but the colonists escorted him in his full official costume to the Auction Room, where his commission was read by Mr. Webb, Collector of Customs, upon the step of the door, to the assembly outside. The Address to His Honor was now presented. The reply of Mr. Latrobe contains passages of such merit that we venture upon extracts, though the piety disgusted a Hobart Town paper, which applied to the speaker the appellation of *Praise God Barebones*: "I pray God," said he, "to whom I look for strength and power, that whether my stay among you, as chief organ of the Government, be long or short, that I may be enabled through His grace to know my duty, and to do my duty diligently, temperately and fearlessly."—Again, "It will not be by individual aggrandisement, by the possession of numerous flocks and herds, or of costly acres, that we shall secure for the country enduring prosperity and happiness, but by the acquisition and maintenance of sound and religious and moral institutions, without which no country can become truly great."

Such was the man received. No name was too good for him. Alas! that change of circumstances, we would fain hope not change of man, shall have taken the popular cry the other side. But, though no politician, we would venture to doubt whether many of his detractors would have done better, had they been placed in the chaos, the excitement, the madness of 1852. In 1839, he was received with shouts of welcome. "He comes," says one paper, "to us as our good genius, to assist to develop our resources, and to place us high in the scale of Colonies—Colonies! nay, he comes to found a mighty empire." The spirit of prophesy unwittingly entered the brain of Mr. Arden. He did, through the accident of the gold discovery, found a mighty empire. Such was then the burst of honest enthusiasm that the editor exclaims,—"He must not become a dealer in any shape. His salary must—must be £2000 per annum, and if the Government will not give it, we must subscribe it ourselves." His salary was £800. No subscription took place after this spasmodic affection. But one thing they did for their chief to show their regard; they allowed him to purchase at the upset price the allotment upon which he had ventured to erect his house. This was equivalent to a bonus of £500.

THE LAND AND LAND SALES.

In the early times of the old Colonies, land was granted to individuals or companies for services rendered, as favor, or in consideration of capital introduced. In this way Governor Brisbane distributed 180,000 acres, subject to a quit rent of two shillings per hundred acres. In Van Diemen's Land, up to the period of forming this Colony, there were granted 1,053,350 acres. In 1831 Lord Ripon's regulations ended this system, and ordered sales by Public Auction, with an upset of five shillings an acre. This was raised to twelve shillings by orders dated August 9th, 1838, and Gazetted in Sydney, January 17th, 1839. The avowed reason was to check the dispersion of the people, and to cheapen labor. If the man of small means could not easily procure land, he would make a good labourer. The Wakefield system was now in full blown favor. Two Colonies were organised upon it,—South Australia and New Zealand. The principle was concentration and especial favor to capitalists. Governor Bourke described it as "A perverse rejection of the bounty of Providence." Like his generous predecessor Macquarie, he stoutly fought for an agricultural yeomanry, a country's pride, a country's sure defence. The great grantee land owners of New South Wales still wanted a little more, and that upon the easiest terms; and in a memorial to the Sydney Government modestly suggested the propriety of investing the Governor with full power to grant not more than 12,800 acres, or twenty square miles, to any "respectable party of station, education and capital, and of habits worthy of being imitated by the humbler classes." The payment for the same was proposed to be as follows;—1000 acres at one pound an acre, payable in 10 years, and the balance of 11,800 to be a free gift subject to a quit rent of £12 a year for ever. The moralist may regret that this plan of forming a model moral gentry,—at least model till the grant came,—could not be carried into effect. The humbler classes might not be raised in condition, but they would have the satisfaction of toiling hard on low wages for these interesting examples of "Virtue rewarded."

By the orders of 1829 certain districts were described as within the "limits of location" Those therefore, with small means, who wanted to keep a few sheep or cattle had to go beyond the boundary. But the richer men found it equally convenient to run their flocks and herds in that waste of pasture. While the population was small

and the territory unoccupied no difficulties arose. But might had then the exercise of its power. Did a great sheep-master dislike the neighbourhood of a poorer, he would "eat him out" by bringing his larger flock round the poor man's hut day by day, until he starved him off. But this was not enough; legislative enactments must be brought to bear upon the weaker ones. A committee of Council sat in February 1836, to consider "the necessity of getting rid of persons commonly called Squatters." Let not an *unlock-the-land* new comer think that name was applied to the lords of the wastes against whom their jealous ire has been raised in Victoria. No, no; the Squatter was a low bred fellow who would persist in running his solitary cow, or a few sheep in the wild wilderness which the great land-owners sought to have to themselves. Without doubt there was some justice in the complaint that bad characters were harboured in those bush huts, that cattle stealing habits were fostered, and that sly grog practices existed. But to deny the poorer man an equal right with the richer to the use of unsold land was felt to be a hardship. In July 1837, the Act of restraint was passed. Its preamble runs thus;—"Whereas, the unauthorized occupation of the unalienated Crown lands of New South Wales is derogatory to the right of His Majesty and His successors, and conducive to many illegal and dishonest practices; and, whereas the laws now in force are insufficient for the speedy and effectual removal of intruders upon such lands, Be it, therefore, enacted, &c." Residence or erection of huts upon, or enclosing, such land subjected the offender for the first offence to the penalty of not more than £10; for the second, £20; for the third, £50. It was declared "not lawful from and after January the first next to occupy any Crown lands in New South Wales beyond the districts aforesaid, without having *first obtained a licence* for such purpose." The payment of the same was £10 a year.

Officers, called Crown land Commissioners, were appointed for the adjustment of the boundaries of runs, &c. Interesting stories are told by the Old Hands of the advantage of a right understanding with these gentlemen, especially when a neighbour was inconveniently troublesome. It was found possible to cut off a man's river frontage, to plant another person near his Head station, or limit his run to a starvation boundary. In the good old times there was no appeal. When the news of the new law reached the Port Phillip territory, there was

great consternation. Numbers of the settlers in the favorite western district, Portland Bay, removed their flocks westward of the Glenelg to be beyond the authority of the New South Wales Government. The Port Phillip Gazette of April 13th, 1839, exclaims,—“If we were a Squatter, we should calmly and unhesitatingly refuse to pay the tax. If our property was seized, we should memorialize the Government of Great Britain.” During the whole of the year 1838 only £580, and in 1838 £695 were collected for licences in the district. The Squatting regulations were republished in the Sydney Gazette of March 1838. Gracious permission was granted to the inhabitants of our new country to pay their ten pounds elsewhere than in Sydney. Pasturage licences were to be issued by the Police Magistrate at Melbourne and Geelong, on the recommendation of a Magistrate or the Commissioner of Crown lands, for the half year commencing July 1st, 1838, on paying the sum of five pounds.

Such were the arrangements for the settlement of the Country. We now turn to the regulations for the sale of small allotments. Though an outcry had been made for the unlocking of the land, so far as the locations upon the Yarra and Barwon were concerned, yet no direct movement for their relief was made until after the visit of Sir Richard Bourke to Port Phillip, in March 1837. As early as the 10th of April following we read the following in the Sydney Gazette; “The Governor directs it to be notified that the Bay at the northern extremity of the waters called in the chart of Flinders, Port Phillip, has been by command of His Excellency, named “Hobson’s Bay;” and that he has ordered the sites of two towns to be laid out,—the one on the western shore of Hobson’s Bay being called “Williams Town,” and the other, on the right bank of the Yarra river, which discharges into that Bay, being named “Melbourne.” The first received its appellation in honor of the King, the second in honor of his Majesty’s Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne. The Bay was called after Capt. Hobson of H. M. S. *Rattlesnake*, in which Governor Bourke came to this southern district. In the Gazette of the same date another proclamation appears; “The Governor, having taken into consideration the number of persons who are now occupying habitations in and near the territory of Melbourne, waiting for an opportunity of purchasing allotments, has been pleased to direct that a certain portion of the allotments, which have recently been laid out by order of His

Excellency, shall be disposed of by Public Auction on the spot." Intimation also is given of a similar sale of some Williams Town lots on the plea of "the advantages it would afford to the commercial interests of the district."

On May 7th, 1837, Robert Hoddle, Esq. was appointed Crown Lands Commissioner. He was our first Surveyor-General, and our first Government Land Auctioneer. In 1811 he was attached to the Engineers Corps of the Military service. Governor Brisbane made him Assistant Surveyor in 1822. He became Senior Surveyor in 1828. All remaining doubts as to the legal settlement of Melbourne were removed by Sir Richard Bourke's message to the Council, June 7th, in which he writes, "I received His Majesty's gracious permission to open up for location the country adjacent to the waters of Port Phillip, and in the vicinity of Twofold Bay. The former of these districts already contains a population of 500 souls, whilst more than 100,000 sheep may be found grazing on its ample pastures." A wonderful act of grace was concealed by the worthy Sir Richard Bourke. The first sale of Melbourne allotments was to take place in Melbourne itself, for the convenience and for the especial advantage of those persons who had already located themselves. The streets, 99 feet wide, were laid out, the plan exhibited, and due notice given. The eventful first of June 1837 arrived. The settlers were anything but men of capital. Those in the Bush had their flocks, but those in town with the exception of Messrs. Batman, Fawkner and Gardiner were men of small means. This accounts, perhaps, for what we now consider the very moderate rate at which the allotments were sold;—the average being only £33 each. The lots were not quite half an acre, four perches being deducted to form a lane or right-of-way, behind the streets; such lanes being now designated Little Collins-street Little Bourke-street, &c. At the first sale of South Australian land, which took place in England, the purchaser of a preliminary section of 134 acres at the upset price received one acre Adelaide town lot. At the first Public Auction sale of land in New Zealand, held on the private estate of Mr. Busby, in November 1839, twenty-three allotments of the township of Victoria, Bay of Islands, realized £850, being an average of £37 each. The remark of the Sydney "Colonist" upon the Melbourne Land Sale was, "The prices realized were very high; they fetched from £18 to £78 each." Mr. Hoddle did not

neglect to send in his account to the Sydney Treasury for his Auction day's work at the tent, charging, though a Government servant, one and a half per cent.

A singular but useful condition of sale existed. Each purchaser entered into a bond to erect some substantial building to the value of twenty pounds upon his allotment, within the term of two years. Strong was the faith of the Melbourne folks in Melbourne land, and increased the desire for more. Other parties sought a home or an investment. Conscious of the fact that directly the sales took place at the legitimate place, Sydney, the price would greatly exceed their means, in contention with monied interests, a memorial was presented to their liberal friend Bourke to allow one more gracious irregularity,—another sale in Melbourne. In reply the Gazette says, August 1, 1837, "In compliance with the petition of numerous individuals who were unable to obtain town allotments at the sale which took place at Port Phillip on the first of June last, the Governor is pleased to direct that an additional portion of the allotments which have been laid out in the town of Melbourne shall be disposed of by Public Auction on the spot." This second sale of ours took place on Nov. 1st, 1837. The particulars of these two sales are now published.

MELBOURNE LOTS, JUNE 1st, 1837.

Blk. 2	Alot. 1	J. P. Fawkner	.	.	.	Melbourne	£32
"	2	Do	.	.	.	Do	25
"	3	John Moss	.	.	.	Do	27
"	4	Arthur Willis	.	.	.	Sydney	27
"	5	Josh. Sutherland	.	.	.	Melbourne	25
"	6	Lachlan McAlister	.	.	.	Sydney	26
"	7	Ml. Connolly, by J. Simpson	.	.	.	Do	29
"	8	John Batman	.	.	.	Melbourne	75
"	9	William Harper	.	.	.	Do	35
"	10	J. F. Strachan	.	.	.	Geelong	40
"	11	John Batman	.	.	.	Melbourne	60
"	12	James Smith	.	.	.	Do	33
"	13	Do	.	.	.	Do	40
"	14	David Fisher	.	.	.	Geelong	42
"	15	Skene Craig	.	.	.	Melbourne	33

Blk. 2	Alot. 16	Wilson and Eyre	.	.	.	Melbourne	£26
"	17	Do	.	.	.	Do	31
"	18	J. H. Wedge	.	.	.	Do	50
"	19	Thomas Browne	.	.	.	Do	41
"	20	J. H. Wedge	.	.	.	Do	42
4	1	G. Cooper	.	.	.	Do	40
"	2	Michael Carr	.	.	.	Do	34
"	3	John Mills	.	.	.	Do	35
"	4	Thomas Grove	.	.	.	Do	29
"	5	Thomas Field	.	.	.	Do	32
"	6	Lach. McAlister	.	.	.	Sydney	35
"	7	Do	.	.	.	Do	35
"	8	Alex. Thomson	.	.	.	Geelong	46
"	9	L. McAlister	.	.	.	Sydney	35
"	10	George Coulstock	.	.	.	Melbourne	31
"	11	Do	.	.	.	Do	40
"	12	Joseph Howson	.	.	.	Do	22
"	13	Thomas Hood	.	.	.	Do	20
"	14	Thomas Napier	.	.	.	Do	20
"	15	William Sharp	.	.	.	Do	21
"	16	Mich. Pender	.	.	.	Do	19
"	17	John Batman	.	.	.	Do	23
"	18	A. Willis for J. J. McIntyre	.	.	.	Do	42
"	19	Wm. Rylie for Stewart R.	.	.	.	Do	30
"	20	Ml. Carr	.	.	.	Do	48
12	1	Jas. Ross	.	.	.	Melbourne	32
"	2	Henry Batman	.	.	.	Do	18
"	3	Gilbt. Marshall	.	.	.	Do	18
"	4	Wm. Synnott	.	.	.	Do	19
"	5	G. Scarborough	.	.	.	Do	18
"	6	Henry Howey	.	.	.	Do	20
"	7	Do	.	.	.	Do	29
"	8	Do	.	.	.	Do	45
"	9	Do	.	.	.	Do	46
"	10	Chas. Swanston	.	.	.	Hobart Town	30
"	11	Barry Cotter	.	.	.	Melbourne	30
"	12	Henry Allan	.	.	.	Do	22
"	13	James Hill	.	.	.	Do	20

Bk. 12 Alt. 14	Jas. McDonnell	.	.	.	Do	£20
„	15 Thos. Walker	.	.	.	Do	19
„	16 J. P. Fawcner	.	.	.	Do	20
„	17 Joseph Moore	.	.	.	Do	20
„	18 John Rooch	.	.	.	Do	28
„	19 Do				Do	28
„	20 John Gardiner	.	.	.	Do	22
13	1 E. W. Umpleby	.	.	.	Do	61
„	2 Thos. Coombes	.	.	.	Do	28
„	3 John Wood	.	.	.	Do	28
„	4 Hugh McLean	.	.	.	Do	30
„	5 J. J. Peers	.	.	.	Do	23
„	6 Rt. Fleming	.	.	.	Do	23
„	7 Thos. Browne	.	.	.	Do	23
„	8 Do				Do	41
„	9 John Highett	.	.	.	Do	42
„	10 Rt. Hoddle	.	.	.	Melbourne	24
„	11 Do				Do	30
„	12 John Hughes	.	.	.	Do	21
„	13 Hor. Cooper	.	.	.	Do	20
„	14 Wm. Evans	.	.	.	Do	21
„	15 Dd. Guillam	.	.	.	Do	23
„	16 Jas. Smith	.	.	.	Do	23
„	17 Do				Do	26
„	18 Thos. Browne	.	.	.	Do	40
„	19 Do				Do	41
„	20 J. H. Vaughan	.	.	.	Do	46
„ 14	1 Wilson and Eyre	.	.	.	Do	95
„	2 Geo. Smith	.	.	.	Do	46
„	3 G. Robson	.	.	.	Do	43
„	4 Geo. Lilly	.	.	.	Do	42
„	5 C. H. Ebdon	.	.	.	Do	41
„	6 Do				Do	45
„	7 Do				Do	50
„	8 Forfeited	.	.	.		
„	9 Jas. Connell	.	.	.	Do	69
„	10 Thos. Davis Weatherly	.	.	.	Do	55
„	11 Geo. Mercer	.	.	.	Do	70

Bk. 14 Alt. 12	Henry Smith	Melbourne	£35
"	13 W. Hutton Smith	Do	36
"	14 J. P. Fawkner	Do	40
"	15 Thos. Walker	Do	39
"	16 Do	Do	36
"	17 Do	Do	41
"	18 Chas. Wedge	Do	67
"	19 J. F. Strachan	Do	50
"	20 Geo. Reid	Do	36

WILLIAMSTOWN LOTS, JUNE 1st, 1837.

3	3 Henry McLean	Sydney	50
"	4 R. S. Webb	Melbourne	40
"	5 J. McNamara	Do	45
"	6 William Hutton	Do	45
"	7 James Simpson	Do	47
"	8 J. F. Strachan	Do	52
"	9 Wm. Leard	Do	46

MELBOURNE LOTS, NOVEMBER 1st, 1837.

3	5 F. Rt. D'Arcy	Melbourne	13
"	6 Do	Do	10
"	7 Robert Saunders Webb	Do	7
"	8 Do	Do	62
"	9 Do	Do	78
"	10 John Sutherland	Do	10
"	11 John Hodgson	Do	90
"	12 Wm. Powell	Do	17
"	13 W. F. A. Rucker	Do	91
"	14 J. P. Fawkner	Do	10
5	1 Daniel McArthur	Do	41
"	2 J. Steith Hill. . . .	Do	36
"	3 A. Lingham (J. Smith)	Do	40
"	4 D. Thompson for Jh. V. T. . . .	Do	40
"	5 J. J. Brown	Do	40
"	6 W. Roadknight	Geelong	41
"	7 John Hodgson	Melbourne	65

Blk. 5	Alt. 8	John Batman	Melbourne	£100
"	9	Thomas Winter	Do	73
"	10	John Batman	Do	59
"	11	Do	Do	60
"	12	John McNall	Do	44
"	12	Do	Do	37
"	14	Mich. Carr	Do	40
"	15	John Gunn	Do	35
"	16	John Hodgson	Do	42
"	17	Do	Do	21
"	18	W. T. Mollison	Do	50
"	19	J. Brown for Napier	Do	40
"	20	A. Sutherland	Do	42
19	1	Chas. Hutton	Do	65
"	2	Do	Do	50
"	3	Emile Dubois	Do	57
"	4	Do	Do	61
"	5	J. J. Brown	Do	62
"	6	Forfeited by J. Hodgson	Do	50
"	7	Forfeited	Do	54
"	8	Thos. Learmonth	Do	70
"	9	Jas. Simpson	Do	40
"	10	Chas. Scott	Do	38
"	11	Chas. Howard	Do	41
"	12			
"	13	Joseph S. Pollock	Do	38
"	14	Patk. Cusseri	Do	39
"	20	Chas. Hutton	Do	57
20	1	J. J. Brown	Do	46
"	2	Do	Do	46
"	3	John McNall	Do	36
"	4	Jas. Douglass	Do	39
"	5	John Cronin	Do	38
"	6	Geo. Lilly	Do	40
"	7	Jas. Soloman	Do	39
"	8	John Mills	Do	50
"	9	Geo. Hitchcock	Do	40
"	10	J. D. Weatherly	Do	38

Blk. 20	Alt. 11	J. Wilson & J. Shaw	.	.	Melbourne	£40
"	12	Robt. Robson	.	.	Do	38
"	13	John Hyland	.	.	Do	30
"	14	Mary Langhorne	.	.	Do	36
"	15	Alfred Langhorne	.	.	Do	37
"	16	G. Sobin by Eyre	.	.	Do	32
"	17	Jas. Sutherland	.	.	Do	37
"	18	Thos. Roadknight	.	.	Do	36
"	19	Mary Will	.	.	Do	40
"	20	Joseph Aberline	.	.	Do	39
21	2	Jane Stephens	.	.	Do	36
"	3	Thomas Watt	.	.	Do	36
"	4	J. Batman by Eyre	.	.	Do	36
"	5	Do	.	.	Do	37
"	6	P. Murphy by Ebdon	.	.	Do	35
"	7	John Homer	.	.	Do	30
"	8	Chas. Swanston	.	.	Do	40
"	9	Chas. Driver	.	.	Do	36
"	10	James Clow	.	.	Do	45
"	11	Do	.	.	Do	45
"	12	Do	.	.	Do	35
"	13	Do	.	.	Do	37
"	14	E. Jas. Newton	.	.	Do	35
"	15	Andrew Haig	.	.	Do	31
"	16	Francis Nodin	.	.	Do	34
"	17	Mich. Carr	.	.	Do	33
"	18	Chas. Wentworth	.	.	Do	37
"	19	Chas. Driver	.	.	Do	35

The average price per Melbourne half acre at first sale was £35; at the second £42. The average for Williams Town lots was £46. On the first of June 106 lots were sold; in November, 83.

A description of these sections, and some identification of those old allotments with their present territory may be interesting to our more recent colonists. Block 2 is between Flinders, Collins, William and King streets; 4, between Flinders, Collins, Queen and Elizabeth streets; 12, between Collins, Bourke, Elizabeth and Swanston streets; 13, between Collins, Bourke, Elizabeth and Queen streets; 14, between Collins, Bourke, Queen and William streets; 3, between

Flinders, Collins, Queen, and William streets; 5, between Flinders, Collins, Elizabeth and Swanston streets; 19, between Bourke, Lonsdale, William and Queen streets; 20, between Bourke, Lonsdale, Queen and Elizabeth streets; 21, between Bourke, Lonsdale, Elizabeth and Swanston streets. The corner lots of each block are 1, 8, 11, 18; and the corners of the lanes are 9, 10, 19, 20.

Lot number 1, bought by Mr. Fawcner, was the eastern corner of Flinders and King streets. Mr. Batman had the two corners of Collins, Flinders, and William streets. The corner of Flinders and Elizabeth streets cost Dr. Thomson £46; and that of Flinders and Queen streets cost Alderman Hodgson £90. Dr. Cotter bought the south west corner of Bourke and Swanston streets for £30, which has since been resold at £200 a foot frontage. The half acre on which the Union Bank, &c. stand, was purchased for £42; and the *Criterion* allotment, £19. Cashmore's corner in Elizabeth street fetched £32; and the *Duke of Clarence* lot, £50; Nicholson and Clarke's corner of Collins street, £45; and that opposite the Post Office, £28. Bear's corner was £40; the New South Wales Bank corner, £95; the north western corner of Elizabeth and Bourke streets, £50; and that opposite to the "Bull and Mouth," Bourke street, £40. The corner opposite to Hocking's Hotel cost £40; that of Harker's stores, Elizabeth street, £36; and Walter Powell's corner, £60. Batman bought the half acre opposite the Victoria Bank for £59; and the Rev. J. Clow got the two south western acres of Swanston and Lonsdale streets for £162. Mr. Hodgson forfeited the lot on which the old Council Chamber was built as being too dear at £54; and relinquished his deposit of £2 2s. upon the half acre in Collins street, next to Elizabeth street corner, rather than pay the enormous balance of £19 18s. upon this hopeless speculation.

The first sale of Suburban land was held at Sydney, February 13th 1838, and the purchasers were almost wholly Sydney people. The blocks were about 25 acres each in the parish of Jika Jika, including that portion of it known now as Collingwood, and averaged £7 an acre. The first lot, 48, of 25 acres, is that at the corner of Carlton Gardens and Victoria Parade; it was bought by a Sydney firm at £6 10s. an acre, though now worth thousands per acre. The river frontage lot only realized then £18 an acre.

JIKA JIKA SUBURBAN SALE, FEB. 13TH, 1838.

Block.	£	s.	d.	Block	£	s.	d.
48. Hughes & Hoskings	162	10	0	69. Gordon Sandeman	168	0	0
49. Thomas Walker	105	0	0	70. Thos. Walker	182	0	0
50. J. T. E. Flint	100	0	0	71. Hughes and Hoskings	154	0	0
51. Thomas Gore	150	0	0	72. G. Sandeman	161	0	0
52. S. A. Donaldson	166	5	0	73. G. Otter	139	2	6
53. Do.	178	2	6	74. Dd. Chambers	145	15	6
54. S. D. L. Campbell	178	2	6	75. Hughes and Hoskings	162	0	0
55. Do.	178	2	6	76. C. J. Garrard	162	0	0
56. Hughes & Hoskings	180	0	0	77. H. Smyth	368	0	0
57. Charles Nicholson	156	0	0	78. Ranulph Dacre	384	0	0
58. Wm. Bradley	154	7	6	79. J. D. L. Campbell	308	0	0
59. C. Nicholson	270	0	0	80. Hughes and Hoskings	154	7	6
60. S. A. Donaldson	276	0	0	81. Do	140	17	6
61. Wm. Lonsdale	150	0	0	82. Do	143	0	0
62. J. T. E. Flint	231	0	0	83. Do	163	16	0
63. Wm. Richardson	226	17	6	84. R. H. Way	163	16	0
64. Henry Smyth	222	0	0	85. Hughes and Hoskings	143	0	0
65. P. L. Campbell	288	0	0	86. J. S. Ryrie	134	15	0
66. Do	198	9	0	87. Arch. Mossman	128	12	6
67. J. D. L. Campbell	172	5	0	88. John Dight	481	0	0
68. S. A. Donaldson	172	5	0				

Upon the same occasion, Feb. 13th, there were sold 1076 acres by the Barwon, Geelong side, to Thomas Brook for £564 18s., and 1029 for £463 1s. The Port Phillip Association also bought in an unnamed country, west of Geelong, lots 47-54, 56, 57, 59 and 60, being 12 lots, 9416 acres for the sum of £7919 7s, of which, says the Gazette, "£7000 were allowed them in consideration of expenses incurred by them in the first formation of the settlement."

MELBOURNE TOWN LOTS, FEB. 14TH, 1839.

Blk. 7	Alot. 1	John Alison	.	.	.	Melbourne	£225
"	2	Thos. Gore	.	.	.	Sydney	155
"	3	A. Hordern	.	.	.	Melbourne	110
"	4	Thos. Wills	.	.	.	Do	110
"	5	G. Sandeman	.	.	.	Sydney	120
"	6	P. Oakden	.	.	.	Launceston	130
"	7	G. Sandeman	.	.	.	Sydney	130
"	8	G. Porter	.	.	.	Melbourne	200
"	9	John Gilchrist	.	.	.	Sydney	150
"	10	G. Ward Cole	.	.	.	Melbourne	130
"	11	Do	.	.	.	Do	175
"	12	Do	.	.	.	Do	135
"	13	J. T. E. Flint	.	.	.	London	100

Blk. 7	Alot. 14	P. Oakden	.	.	.	Launceston	£120
"	15	Thos. Walker	.	.	.	Sydney	110
"	16	Ad. Walker	.	.	.	Do	110
"	17	G. Sandeman	.	.	.	Do	110
"	18	P. Oakden	.	.	.	Launceston	195
"	19	Thos. Walker	.	.	.	Sydney	100
"	20	Do				Do	105

SOUTH GEELONG TOWN LOTS, FEB. 14TH, 1839.

Blk. 3	Alot. 1	Hughes and Hoskings	.	.	.	Sydney	40
"	2	Thomas Gore	.	.	.	Do	35
"	3	Alex. Thomson	.	.	.	Geelong	34
"	4	Do				Do	31
"	5	Felton Mathew	.	.	.	Do	31
"	6	Do				Do	31
"	7	Chas. Nicholson	.	.	.	Do	30
"	8	Wm. Kerr	.	.	.	Do	40
"	9	Do				Do	39
"	12	Foster Fyans	.	.	.	Do	45
"	13	Do				Do	51
"	14	Wm. Kerr	.	.	.	Sydney	50
"	15	P. W. Welsh	.	.	.	Melbourne	53
"	16	Do				Do	52
"	17	C. Nicholson	.	.	.	Sydney	51
"	18	Thos. Gore	.	.	.	Do	63
"	19	C. J. Garrard	.	.	.	Do	46
"	20	Alex. McGilray	.	.	.	Do	45
6	3	Daniel Wallace	.	.	.	Do	31
"	4	Do				Do	31
"	5	J. C. Breillat	.	.	.	Do	30
"	6	Do				Do	30
"	7	Thos. Walker	.	.	.	Do	27
"	8	S. A. Donaldson	.	.	.	Do	41
"	9	Do				Do	30
"	10	Do				Do	33
"	11	Daniel Wallace	.	.	.	Do	51
"	12	J. T. E. Flint	.	.	.	London	34

Blk. 6 Alot. 13	Thos. Walker	.	.	.	Sydney	£34
"	14 T. J. E. Flint	.	.	.	London	34
"	15 Robt. Milne	.	.	.	Sydney	35
"	16 Do	.	.	.	Do	37
"	17 S. A. Donaldson	.	.	.	Do	37
"	18 Do	.	.	.	Do	45
"	19 Do	.	.	.	Do	35
"	20 Do	.	.	.	Do	33

NORTH GEELONG TOWN LOTS, FEB. 14TH, 1839.

10	4 James Donaldson	.	.	.	Sydney	82
"	5 Do	.	.	.	Do	80
"	6 John Gilchrist	.	.	.	Do	95
"	7 S. A. Donaldson	.	.	.	Do	100
"	8 C. Nicholson	.	.	.	Do	155
"	9 Thos. Wills	.	.	.	Melbourne	80
"	10 John Gilchrist	.	.	.	Sydney	78
"	11 Thos. Wills	.	.	.	Melbourne	80
"	12 G. Sandeman	.	.	.	Sydney	53
"	13 E. B. Addis	.	.	.	Geelong	53
"	14 P. W. Welsh	.	.	.	Melbourue	55
"	15 W. Gibb	.	.	.	Launcecton	53
"	16 G. Sandeman for W. Gibb	.	.	.	Sydney	54
"	17 J. Porter	.	.	.	Melbourne	155
"	18 S. Sandeman	.	.	.	Sydney	155
"	19 John Sproat	.	.	.	Melbourne	130
23	1 D. G. Campbell	.	.	.	Do	150

MITCHELL'S TOWN, GOULBURN.

Lots 1 to 22 and 27 to 30. Deeds dated Sept. 12th, 1839.

Of the North Geelong lots the average price was £95, and the South Geelong £40. About three fourths of the purchasers were Sydney people, and only one tenth Geelong residents.

The next Town Sale took place at Sydney. To get an increase to the same fund, it was determined to have an upset price; this was fixed at £75 the half acre,

MELBOURNE TOWN LOTS, SEP. 13TH, 1838.

Bk. 15	Alot. 1	Alex. Orr	Melbourne	£231	16
"	2	S. Campbell	Do	159	12
"	3	R. A. C. Browne	Do	163	8
"	4	A. B. Sparke	Sydney	212	16
"	15	Thos. Walker	Do	125	8
"	16	C. Nicholson	Do	121	12
"	17	Betts, Pantan and Co. . . .	Do	129	4
"	18	A. Fotheringham	Do	182	8
"	19	Do	Do	178	12
"	20	P. W. Flower	Do	193	16
22	1	Chas. Grace	Melbourne	125	8
"	2	C. Scott, cancelled			
"	3	R. Campbell	Sydney	91	4
"	4	Phillip Oakden	Launceston	95	0
"	5	L. W. Gilles	Do	98	16
"	6	C. Scott, cancelled			
"	7	Geo. Chisholm	Melbourne	87	8
"	8	J. H. Phelps	Do	110	4
"	9	P. Grace, forfeited			
"	10	Do			
"	11	W. H. Kerr	Sydney	91	4
"	12	J. H. Vaughan	Melbourne	79	16
"	13	J. Jackson cancelled			
"	14	W. H. Kerr	Sydney	72	4
"	15	Sydney Stephen	Do	68	8
"	16	R. Campbell	Do	76	0
"	17	Thos. Walker	Do	76	0
"	18	Do	Do	98	16
"	19	Joseph Stevenson	Do	91	4
"	20	Hughes and Hoskings	Do	87	8
18	1	C. Nicholson	Sydney	174	16
"	2	Betts, Pantan and Co. . . .	Do	114	0
"	3	Do	Do	117	16
"	4	Wm. Piper	Do	102	12
"	5	J. J. McIntyre	Do	106	8
"	6	Do	Do	102	12
"	7	Betts, Pantan and Co. . . .	Do	87	8

Blk. 18 Alt. 8	John Brown	.	.	Sydney	£140 12
"	9 Do	.	.	Do	129 4
"	10 J. H. Phelps	.	.	Do	114 0
"	11 Do	.	.	Do	114 0
"	12 P. Oakden	.	.	Launceston	76 0
"	13 Do	.	.	Do	91 0
"	14 Betts, Pantan and Co.	.	.	Sydney	95 0
"	15 Do	.	.	Do	87 8
"	16 Salting or Garrard	.	.	Do	87 8
"	17 W. H. Kerr	.	.	Do	83 12
"	18 John Whyte	.	.	Do	114 0
"	19 A. Davidson	.	.	Do	117 16
"	20 G. Cooper	.	.	Do	114 0
11	10 Betts, Pantan and Co.	.	.	Do	133 0
"	11 S. A. Donaldson	.	.	Do	152 0
"	12 L. Cowen, forfeited	.	.		
"	13 Thos. Walker	.	.	Sydney	83 12
"	14 Jn. McNamara	.	.	Melbourne	87 8
"	15 Betts, Pantan and Co.	.	.	Sydney	87 8
"	16 Thos. Wills	.	.	Melbourne	83 12
"	17 Thos. Jeffrey	.	.	Sydney	98 16
"	18 Wm. Bowman	.	.	Bong Bong	136 16
"	19 Do	.	.	Do	121 12
6	7 Wm. Rutledge	.	.	Sydney	117 16
"	8 Do	.	.	Do	152 0
"	9 Henry Smyth	.	.	Melbourne	121 12
"	10 Thos. Black	.	.	Perth	129 4
"	11 R. Browne	.	.	Sydney	190 0
"	12 Do	.	.	Do	117 16
"	13 Thos. Forster	.	.	Do	117 16
"	14 Thos. Jeffrey	.	.	Do	121 12
"	15 Thos. Walker	.	.	Do	95 0
"	16 Chas. Nicholson	.	.	Do	114 0
"	17 Thos. Napier	.	.	Melbourne	129 4
"	18 Thos. Black	.	.	Perth	167 4
"	19 John Roach	.	.	Melbourne	144 8

WILLIAMS TOWN LOTS, SEP. 13TH. 1838.

Blk. 2	Alot. 1	W. Jas. Cape . . .	Sydney	£68	8
"	2	Do	Do	39	18
"	3	John Jas. Smith . . .	Melbourne	32	6
"	4	H. Davis . . .	Do	30	8
"	5	Wm. Leard . . .	Do	26	12
"	6	W. Kerr . . .	Do	51	6
"	7	John Stafford . . .	Do	19	0
"	8	S. J. Browne . . .	Do	72	4
"	9	Geo. James . . .	Do	30	8
"	20	J. F. Smith . . .	Do	30	8
4	1	Hughes and Hoskings . .	Sydney	39	18
"	2	Do	Do	36	2
"	3	Do	Do	32	6
"	4	Do	Do	30	8
"	5	Do	Do	36	2
"	6	Do	Do	38	0
"	7	E. D. O'Reilly . . .	Do	49	8
"	8	Hughes and Hoskings . .	Do	117	16
"	9	Do	Do	41	16
"	20	Do	Do	39	18

The prices realized at this Sydney Sale were higher than the Melbourne one. Hickingbotham's corner of Swanston and Bourke Streets fetched £125; that opposite the Hospital, £98; the two corners opposite the Government Offices, £114 each; the "Rainbow" half acre, by the Police Office, £121; the eastern corner of Bourke and Swanston Streets, £136; that opposite the Independent Chapel, Collins Street, £100; the one opposite to Walter Powell's, Collins and Swanston Streets, £167; and the "Argus" half acre, £129.

MELBOURNE TOWN LOTS, APRIL 11TH, 1839.

Blk. 10	Alot. 4	David Wallace . . .	Sydney	£115
"	5	Thomas Gremer . . .	Do	110
"	6	H. Isler, forfeited . . .		
"	7	John Watson . . .	Do	80
"	8	J. T. E. Flint . . .	London	130
"	9	William Smith . . .	Melbourne	100

Blk. 18 Alt. 18	Arthur Hordern	.	.	.	Sydney	£160
"	19	Do			Do	110
23	1	Archibald Mossman	.	.	Do	150
"	2	Do			Do	100
"	3	Do			Do	100
"	4	Do			Do	100
"	9	George Porter	.	.	Melbourne	100
"	10	Do			Do	100
"	20	Archibald Mossman	.	.	Sydney	100
24	1	George Porter	.	.	Melbourne	75
"	8	W. S. McLeay	.	.	Sydney	75
"	11	Do			Do	75
"	18	Do			Do	75
	Lots 2—11, and 11—18, 19, 20, no offer.					
8	1	P. L. Campbell	.	.	Sydney	77
"	2	George Porter	.	.	Melbourne	75
"	3	Do			Do	75
"	4	Do			Do	75
"	5	A. B. Sparke	.	.	Sydney	75
"	6	Do			Do	75
"	7	Do			Do	75
"	8	S. Benjamin and E. Moses	.	.	Do	80
"	10	P. L. Campbell	.	.	Do	75
"	11	Do			Do	81
"	18	Geo. Porter	.	.	Melbourne	83
"	19	D. Stephenson	.	.	Do	77
"	20	P. L. Campbell	.	.	Sydney	89
	No offer for 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17.					
9	1	Geo. Porter	.	.	Melbourne	75
"	8	S. Benjamin and Moses.	.	.	Sydney	75
"	20	Geo. Porter	.	.	Melbourne	75
	10, 11, 18, 19, to P. L. Campbell, at £75 each.					

No offer for 2—8 and 12—18.

The Sale of April 11th was a very dull one.

Block 10 is the neighbourhood of the Eastern Market ; 23, opposite to that between Bourke Street and Lonsdale Street ; 24, east of 23 ; 8, between Collins, Flinders and Spring Streets ; 9, between Collins,

Bourke and Spring Streets. The sites of the present National Hotel, Astley's Theatre, Military Office of Collins Street east, the fine residences at the top of Collins Street, and the stores on the south side of the top of Bourke Street, were held so valueless that not an offer was made for them. Some of that land is now worth £150 a foot.

JIKA JIKA LAND, AUGUST, 11TH, 1839.

There were 12 lots of about 25 acres each, forming the present Township of Richmond. Lot 24, fetching £24 an acre, is that at the corner of Richmond and Punt Roads; 37 is opposite to it; and 47 is at the corner of East Melbourne and Simpson Roads. The other 10 Country Lots are in the neighbourhood of Pentridge.

Lot.	Acres.		Per acre.	Lot	Acres.		Per acre.
21	25.	Rev. J. Docker	- £24	142	373.	R. H. Browne	- £1 10
22	25.	Do	- 15	143	310.	R. W. Welsh	- 1 1
23	26.	McNall	- 17	144	312.	Do	- 1 6
24	25.	Do	- 24	145	537.	Do	- 1 19
25	25.	Crock	- 22	146	1117.	R. H. Browne	- 1 1
26	25.	Yaldwyn	- 21	147	640.	A. C. Sparke	- 18
36	28.	Wiggan	- 21	148	640.	Lyon Campbell	- 1 8
37	28.	S. Craig	- 28	149	640.	Urquhart	- 1 5
38	28.	Wreade	- 25	150	640.	R. H. Browne	- 0 15
39	27.	Muston	- 21	151	780.	J. P. Fawknor	- 2 10
46	27.	Witton	- 13				
47	27.	McCrae	- 16				

A few illustrations may here be added to our early land history. The friend of a Hobart Town man bought for him a corner of Flinders Lane and Elizabeth Street for £40. The exclamation of the party on receiving the news was, "You have ruined me." Mr. Gardiner bought the south east corner of Little Collins and Elizabeth Streets for £22, and sold it for £600; soon after an affair came of £3000. Cashmore's corner was once placarded with notices of "This land for sale at £2 a foot frontage." In May 1839 it fetched £630 in lots. The Auctioneer, Mr. Charles Williams, has the following modest advertisement of the sale:—"The original proprietor, though unwilling to part with this allotment, could not withstand the numerous applications for even a portion of it, and has kindly consented to a Surveyor laying it out in the most advantageous manner for the public." The corner of Collins Street and William Street, the site of the present Bank of New South Wales, cost Mr. Eyre £50. On August 5th, 1839, it realized £2010. Mr. Fawknor's east corner of King and Flinder's Streets cost him only £32, and was sold for £1613 6s. 6d.

on September 21st, 1839, by Mr. Williams under his celebrated Sadi Mahommed Tent. A week before that, three allotments were disposed of opposite to Fawkner's Hotel, and adjoining the Wesleyan Chapel, at the rate of 26 guineas a foot, or £3408 an allotment. Two of them cost Mr. Ebdon £41 and £45 respectively; the other was bought by Lilly the Auctioneer for £42. In July, 1839, four lots in the bush, now occupied by Mr. Clarke the bookseller and his neighbours, realized £42 for each section of 28 feet frontage. One half of Dr. Howitt's corner, Collins Street, was advertized in that year for lease for 10 years at a rental of £20 a year. Of another allotment, 3 of 15, next but one to St. James' Church reserve, the Auctioneer, Mr. Lilly, grew so eloquent in 1839, as to talk of "This naissant empire of the South Seas," declaring that "Words insufficient to describe, and language, like Vulcan obeying the behests of Venus, follows thought with a slow and halting pace."

Country and Suburban lands had not began to experience changes, for at our period of history they were now just being brought into the market by Government. As early as October 1839, the 28 acre lot of Victoria Parade, west of Brunswick Street was cut up and sold. That in front of it was long a sort of Canvas Town for the squalid tents and huts on leasehold lots. Most of the farming region was bought up by Sydney men; and our paper of April, 1839, has this remark upon them:—"Of all the beautiful tracts of agricultural soil only one section has been laid out for improvement, the rest will be fallow for years to come, unless the Sydney speculators earn the Israelitish interest they pant for." Yet one Sydney firm, Messrs. Hughes and Hoskings, managed to buy a thousand acres at 7s. 6d. an acre, in October 1838, and resell the whole within a month at 20s. In 1837 the proceeds of the land sales amounted to £7,221; in 1838, to £62,457; in 1839, to £59,995. The following year, 1840, was the era of Government sales. In 1838 there were sold 73 Melbourne lots at the rate of £250 an acre; and 20 in Williams Town, at £90 an acre. In Wollert, Keelbundara, and Will Will Rook parishes were sold 29,748 acres; of which 1000 averaged 10s.; 2000, 36s.; 3000 20s. and the rest at from 6s. 9d. to 10s. an acre. The first record of Geelong Sales occurs in the Sydney Gazette of October 26th, 1838: "Notice is hereby given that a site has been fixed upon for a Town-

ship at the under-mentioned place, and that a copy of the approved plan may be seen at the office of the Surveyor-General in Sydney, or to the nearest bench of magistrates." The upset price was £5 sterling per acre. Governor Bourke had a very poor opinion of Geelong, as we may see from the low upset, and even told Dr. Thomson that he might as well buy up the land about there, and cut up a private Township, if he thought one so desirable. The then existing upset of some of the other New South Wales Town lots is here given;—Albany £2 an acre; Windsor £20; Yass, £3; Maitland, £20; Bathurst, £10; Appin, £5; Goulbourn £4; Braidwood £2.

LAW, POLICE AND POST.

The first Police Office, was a wattle and dab building of two rooms, that stood in the present market place, near the line of Flinders Lane. One room was the infirmary of the Colony; the other, when not occupied by the magistrate, was used by the constable who officiated as Post-Master General. The roof had for some time shown signs of subsidence, when one evening, a lot of rowdy young men about town amused themselves with digging through the walls of this Government edifice, and leaving both Court of Justice and Hospital in ruins. A reward of £25 failed in finding the offenders, although it was charitably asserted that Batman's big bull had knocked down the public offices. Subsequently constructed of wood, they were afterwards occupied until very recently by Mr. Graves, but are now removed for the erection of the new Western Market. In the first watch-house were confined some aborigines, who, adroitly burrowing beneath the substantial building, quietly emerged at night, and escaped.

The regular Court House, formerly the old emigration office, and recently burnt down, was situated at the south west corner of William and Bourke Streets. Petty Sessions were opened July 17th, 1838. On July 31st, 1838, a bill was introduced into the Sydney legislature to institute Quarter Sessions at Melbourne, and to establish the great boon of trial by a jury of twelve; petitions had been previously forwarded against the military juries of seven. Quarter Sessions were Gazetted April 24th, 1839. They were first held on May 13th, lasting three days, when three jurors were fined for non-attendance. A Bill for our Court of Requests was proposed in the Sydney Council July 24th, 1839. Edward Jones Brewster, Esq., was appointed the

first Commissioner of that Court in Oct. 12th. Mr. Baxter our first Clerk of the Bench was Gazetted January 16th, 1838. Mr. James Montgomery was the earliest Clerk of the Peace, and Mr. Horatio Nelson Carrington, Registrar of the Court.

The means of protection were not extensive. In February 1839, Melbourne boasted only of four constables. The stations for the few Mounted Police were Melbourne, Geelong, and the crossings of the Goulburn, Broken, Ovens, and Hume or Murray. As before intimated the constable who came with Capt. Lonsdale was named Hooson. But Henry Batman officiated as the first chief constable of Melbourne; he expired suddenly while sitting on a sofa in 1839. As that was the era of Convict Discipline, some prisoners might be expected to be in Port Phillip. The Government employed them, and private parties had their assigned servants. But it was not considered safe to trust these exiles so far from head quarters and control. In the Sydney Gazette of March 8th, 1837, we find that persons requiring assigned men to go with them to Port Phillip were first to obtain permission from the superintendent of Convicts. On the 12th of December 1838, we have this notification: "His Excellency takes this opportunity of making known the instructions which have been given to discourage as much as possible the assignment of convicts in the Port Phillip District, in order to prevent disappointment to settlers who may in future become purchasers of land in that part of the colony." On January 1st, 1839, assignment in towns was totally discontinued. On August 15th following, all male domestic servants were disallowed in town and country. This colony was therefore never nurtured in prison discipline, nor did it owe its national progress to convict labor.

Our Post Office history is interesting. First kept in the humble Police Office, it was transferred to the care of Mr. Bagster, who lived behind where the *Royal Highlander* now is in Flinders Street. Mr. Skene Craig next received the troublesome and thankless charge; this was on March 30th, 1839. A month after, through the kindness of the newspapers, he published his first list of unclaimed letters, then about 300 in number. Mr. Kelsh was the first orthodox Post-Master, being sent from Sydney as District Post-Master, Sept. 9th, 1839. His habitation was a brick house, situated a little westward of the present Temple Court, Chancery Lane, on the opposite side. The Office hours were from 10 to 12, and 3 to 5. The postal revenue for the year

1838, was the inconsiderable sum of £150. A letter to Sydney by land cost fifteen pence, and a ship letter three pence. The overland mail to Sydney took three weeks; and as the same conveyance brought the replies, six weeks formed the interval of correspondence. A fortnightly mail was established on January 1st, 1839, and a weekly run on April 1st.

COMMERCE, TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Messrs. Batman and Fawcner were the founders of our commerce. The *Gem* of the one, and the *Enterprise* of the other were the forerunners of our Black and White Ball Liners. Both gentlemen ordered goods from the little island, and retailed them to consumers. In those days the colony was often *out* of an article, and the settlement has been reduced to great straits for want of flour. The timely entrance of one of the petty schooners would then bring a small fortune to the consignee. Mr. Batman was the merchant of the day. His store was extensive and profitable. Mr. Batman conducted a large business, even in the period of his lengthened illness; he was admirably assisted by the business tact of his eldest daughter Maria, the late Mrs. Fennell; his manager was Mr. Willoughby. He was squatter, merchant, shipping agent, bill discounter, money lender, broker, &c., &c. Messrs. Skene Craig, Hodgson, Rucker, Chisholm, Nodin and Welsh were also early merchants. Mr. Strachan of Hobart Town had an establishment. The Custom House is thus described by Arden; "A dirty-looking shed, inconveniently small and badly situated, dignified with the appellation of Custom House. The Customs from Oct. 10th, 1836 to January 5th, 1837, amounted to £329. During the next year it rose to £2357; in 1838 to 2239; in 1839 to £1450. The wool imported in 1838 was 715,603 lbs, valued at £53,670; in 1839, to 1,327,780 lbs., £99,583. The total Imports for the last three months of 1836 were £3,409 and exports £1,544. For 1837 they were £115,279, and the exports £8,994. For 1838 they were £86,797 and £23,737; and in 1839, £204,782 and £77,684. The revenue of the Colony in 1838 was £6,738; but even then the revenue of South Australia was only £1,445, and Western Australia £929. In 1836 the Colonial revenue was £329, and expenditure £2,165; in 1837 they were £2,979 and £5,879; in 1838, £6,734

and £13,717; and in 1839, £15,945. In those four years the expenditure exceeded the income by £19,774; but during that period the land revenue was £129,673, in the emigration advantages of which the district of Sydney enjoyed the lion's share. This injustice, and general neglect, begat in that early day the cry of "Separation from New South Wales."

There was little provision for the safety of vessels, and for the reception of goods. The Bay and Wharf were alike neglected. Mr. Fawcner in a letter to his father in Hobart Town, which was published in February, 1836, after giving the sailing directions to the settlement adds, "Beacons placed by my directions and at my expense." In March, 1838, he advertises in his paper for Buoys, to be stationed for the public good; he is entitled to public thanks. Even as late as February, 1839, we have notice of a floating light *to be* near the Heads and of a Pilot *to come*, though in July 28th, 1838, there were tenders out in the Sydney Gazette for three wooden buoys for our Bay. The first light-house at Williams Town was of wood, and the lamp was procured from Hobart Town. Mr. Stafford was appointed tide surveyor at Williams Town in May, 1839. At the same time Messrs. Le Soeuf and McNamara were declared tide surveyors at Melbourne. Petitions for Melbourne to be a free wharehousing port were forwarded in May 1839, and received the approval of Governor Gipps on June 17th. The Wharf was in a deplorable state. On May 30th, 1839, it was ordered that no vessel remain there longer than six days, that no one loiter there after sunset, that no wood be cut nor lime burnt, and that no timber, &c., be left within 20 feet of the edge, and that for not more than four days. The same regulations existed at the Jetty of Williams Town. The penalty was 20 shillings.

The tonnage outwards in 1838 reached 11,700 tons, and in 1839, 26,000. In the year before the following vessels made trips from Hobart Town to Port Phillip; *Siren*, Bell, master, once; *Domain*, Bently, twice; *Tasmanian Lass*, Gardner, twice; *Industry*, Gardner, twice; *Hetty*, Stephenson, twice; *Lady Franklin*, Smith, twice; *Adelaide*, McClelland, twice; *Blossom*, Dawson, twice; *Yarra Yarra*, Lancy, once; *Charlotte*, Gardner, once. The first ship lost in our Bay was the *Britannia* from Launceston, March 29th, 1839: the sheep were mostly saved. The first ship for London was the *Thomas Laurie*, bearing 400 bales, with a cargo worth £6,500. The first

ship from London, the *Bryan*, 500 tons, was advertised in 1839 as "Affording settlers for this flourishing colony an opportunity of proceeding thence at once."

The monetary system of the colony was simple enough. There was no money. The system of orders upon Sydney, Launceston and Hobart Town houses prevailed. The discounting of such orders formed a very profitable trade. Hughes and Hoskings of Sydney had an Agent here with that object. The Sydney Colonist of June, 1837, has a quiet thrust at our neighbours over the water upon referring to this usage: "The settlers complain of not being able to get remittances in specie from the sister Colony, to pay for the purchase of allotments, and Government will not take cheques or bills; but it is a very old complaint, with which our Van Demonian neighbours have long been chargeable." All this naturally led to the institution of Banking interests. Capt. Swanston sent over Mr. Rucker to open a branch of his Derwent Bank. This was conducted in a little store at the south east corner of Queen and Collins Streets; it afterwards became amalgamated with the Union Bank. Mr. McArthur, arrived here from Sydney at the close of 1837, to establish a branch of the Australasian Bank. It was opened in a little two roomed brick cottage, with a small garden in front, situated in Little Collins Street, near Elizabeth Street, at the back of Connell's store. Upon removal to the new premises, adjoining the Wesleyan Chapel allotment, Collins Street, the little house became tenanted by Monsieur and Madame Gautrot, our first public musicians. The Union Branch Bank, established about the same time as the Australasian, had Messrs. Rucker and Gardiner as Directors, and Mr. Highett as Manager. It was held in a two roomed weather-board place in Queen Street, until the erection of their premises at the corner of Queen Street and Flinders Lane, now known as the *Woolpack* Hotel. The Port Phillip Bank, a local one, was commenced under the management of Mr. John Gardiner in 1839. The Savings' Bank was by the Gazette of Dec. 17th, 1838, placed under Messrs. Lonsdale, Clow, Smith, Skene Craig, Grylls and Baxter, as Trustees. The Melbourne Fire and Marine Assurance arose under the care of Mr. James Smith, in April 1839; there were 1,000 shares of fifty pounds each.

Wages for shepherds were at first about £20 and rations, though they rose to £40. A written notice once appeared on the walls of

Melbourne; "He wot hires to any settler under forty pounds a year will get summot for his pains." In October 1839 there were in Melbourne no watchmakers and tinmen, though there were 4 tailors, 4 blacksmiths, 4 butchers, 3 bakers, 3 saddlers, and 12 shoemakers. Mr. McNall, the only apology for a lawyer in those primitive days, kept his butcher's shop where the *American Hotel*, Collins Street, now is, nearly opposite Clarke's the publisher. It had a balcony, which was intended to be the bottom floor when the street should be raised; but the inhabitants objected to alterations of level. A Scotchman was the first tobacconist, Sept. 28th, 1839. The first baker in Australia, the inventor of the damper, Bond, of Sydney, died in 1839, the last of the first fleet, aged 110 years. Though the first Colonial Surgeon was Dr. Thomson in 1836, and Dr. Patrick Cussen was appointed to succeed him, Sep. 12th, 1837, yet the first medical man for the people was Mr. Barry Cotter, formerly of Ross, Van Diemen's Land, and now of Adelaide. Bricks were made over the Yarra on the southern bank. A tax was levied on the brickmakers in September, 1838, by which they were required to pay £10 a year for being on Government land, £5 for erecting a hut, and £2 10s. for using the clay. This cruel enactment drove many of them to Adelaide. The lime burners were also obliged to give the paternal Sydney Government one bushel for every ten bushels they burned. At first there was little employment for any but shepherds, and mechanics were strongly affected with Adelaide and Valparaiso fevers. The whole amount expended on public works in 1838 was £390. Even clerks were not much required for the Government, when we read that there were sent down from Sydney, for all our Melbourne Departments, in November, 1838, 6 bottles of red and 6 black ink, 1 bundle of quills, 1 box of wafers, 20 fathoms of red tape, and *one* quire of foolscap paper! The prices in November, 1838, were as follows; Flour, £35; hay, £18; potatoes, £10; tea, £6 a chest; sugar, 6d.; cheese, 1s.; butter, 2s. 6d.; ducks or fowls 16s. a couple; eggs, 3d.; maize, 7s.; shingles, 25s. per 1000. In March, 1839, flour was £30; hay, £12; V. D. L. Potatoes, £15 and P. P. Potatoes £12; mutton, 4d.; Colonial cheese, 1s. 4d; oats, 5s.; boards, 4s. 100 feet; Kangaroo skins, 20s. a dozen. Little was grown in the country. Mr. Lilly of the "Adam and Eve" first grew cabbages on the Eastern Hill. Lady Franklin on her visit in April, 1838, adds her testimony to our national

developement; and, in her reply to an address at Fawknor's hotel, spoke with delight of the "Cordiality of the amicable feeling which exists between the two countries (V. D. L. and P. P.) so naturally and nearly related." The 'Cornwall Chronicle' of Launceston is so astonished at our progress as to give utterance to the following prophecy in June, 1839: "It is by no means improbable that Port Phillip, at some future day, will rise to be the queen of the Australian Colonies, and that Van Diemen's Land will dwindle into a mere place of pleasurable resort for the wealthy inhabitants of New Holland,"

MELBOURNE AND GEELONG.

Before the first sale of Town Land, June 1, 1837, there were but Mr. Batman's weather-board house and 30 ruder tenements upon the site of Melbourne. In a sketch of Melbourne made by Mr. Surveyor Russel, early in 1837, before the date of the sale, but after the laying out of the Town, we have some interesting particulars. The tents of Messrs. W. W. Darke and Rt. Russell are seen by the Yarra Falls, and other Survey tents at the junction of Flinders and Swanston Streets. Batman's house and garden were on the south east side of Batman's hill. Capt. Lonsdale, as Commandant, resided near the junction of Spencer and Little Collins Streets. The Commissariat Stores were by the western end of the present Collins Street. Adams and Armstrong had fenced in ground beside the Yarra, between Russel and Swanston Streets. Eyre and James Smith were in the centre of our Collins Street, between King and Williams Streets. The rude Church is depicted in Williams Street, on the western side of Little Collins Street. Robson and Powell were in Collins Street by the Market Square. R. Well and F. R. D'Arcy, had huts on the east side of the Square; Nodin, Craig, and Henry Batman, on the west side; Dinrose on the north; and J. P. Fawknor on the south-west side. Halfpenny was in the bush of Collins Street, between Elizabeth and Swanston Streets. To the north west of the town is indicated the Burial Hill.

It was intended that the town should be called after the Secretary of the Colonies, who had so interested himself in Australian affairs, the benevolent Lord Glenelg. This may be witnessed in the writings of Dr. Ross of Hobart Town, one of the most distinguished of Colonial Editors, from whose almanack we quote the following. "1836, Nov.

Capt. Lonsdale selected the original settlement formed by Mr. Batman on the Yarra Yarra as the site of the infant metropolis of Port Phillip, The Government had commenced building a gaol (query—the old Police Office) and a Commissariat Store, and the town was named Glenelg." After the sale, houses gradually increased and became of a superior style of architecture. While in June, 1837, there were only 36 houses, with property valued at £1,800, there were, in June, 1838, 300 houses, 1800 people, and property £60,000. In June, 1839 there were 500 houses including 70 shops, 3,000 people, and £112,000 of property. When Mr. Latrobe arrived there were three breweries, one tannery, two feldmongers, and 200 houses having stone foundations, though few had upper works in brick. The chimneys of the old sod huts were constructed of Launceston bricks. The first brick house is said to have been a store, in February, 1838, for Mr. Strachan, situated on the site of our Union Bank. Mr. Fawcner's Hotel, now the "Shakespeare," arose soon after. Mr. Batman's house, on the opposite site of Market Square, in Collins Street, was built about the same time as Mr. Fawcner's Hotel. Mr. Hodgson's house in Flinders Street, decidedly the finest private residence in the early days, was erected also in 1838; it is now the Port Phillip Club Hotel. The old "Herald" office, in Little Collins Street, was an established store in 1838. The first burial place may be seen as the little enclosure on the hill near the Flagstaff.

The streets were in a fearful state in winter. Elizabeth Street was the worst; the rut in it, the watercourse of the town, being sufficient to entomb a waggon and horses. No wonder that an advertisement appeared for 1000 pairs of stilts. The soul of some Melbourne Milton was stirred to write,—

A beautiful town is Melbourne,
 All by the Yarra side;
 Its streets are wide, its steets are deep,—
 They are both deep and wide.
 Escaping from one quagmire
 There's room enough for more;
 Such a beautiful town as Melbourne,
 Was never seen before.

While in the poetic strain, we must give another effusion, full of patriotic indignation, dated Collins Street, February 14th, 1839,

Melbourne left in her infant state
 To flourish as she may,
 Shall notwithstanding this hard fate,
 Behold a brighter day.

Melbourne shall flourish, rise the cup;
 Loudly hurra to her glory!
 Her day now dawns—her sun is up—
 And success will be her story.

GEELONG was long dragging itself into notice. She was a beautiful but neglected child. Geographically situated, it had superior attractions to Melbourne, that required Government nursing, royal jelly, to sustain its growth. Mr. Westgarth thus remarks, "The site, of Geelong, the qualities of its harbour, and the rich, beautiful and open country that extends for many miles behind it, appears to me to have offered recommendations for the site of the capital, decidedly superior to those of Melbourne." The stations around Carayo or Corio Bay needed stores for supplies, and so the town was established before the Government survey was made. The first who drove a bullock team between the two places was the present Mayor of Geelong; the fears which his man entertained of the natives obliged him to take the whip. The first store was erected by Mr. Champion in the early part of 1838. It was of wood, and stood near the site of the Custom House. When the town was surveyed, Mr. Champion was directed to remove his dwelling. It was afterwards put up in Corio Street. The next erection was that of Mr. Strachan's, on about the same place as his present store. Mr. Fisher, the squatter, had a house on the Barwon some time before either of these. Mack's Hotel was originally a slab hut, of course without a license. McNaughton removed from Mr. Champion's store to open the public house, July, 1838. The original tavern is now the back kitchen of the hotel. There was no brick house in Geelong before the ascension of Mr. Latrobe. The Rev. James Loves' brick house first appeared in 1840.

The first town sale of land was on February 14th, 1839. It was held at Sydney, and two thirds of the lots were purchased by Sydney folks. It was a double township—North and South Geelong. The north, by the Bay, was called Corio. The south, by the Barwon, was thought likely to form the villa residences of merchants. The average price of the 16 lots sold of North Geelong, was £140; that of the 26 lots of South Geelong, £40. Foster Fyans, Esq., was the first Police magistrate of the Geelong district, receiving his appointment as early as Sep. 5th, 1837. Mr. Fenwick followed. The mail cart between the two towns started, May, 15th, 1839, a punt being then thrown over Saltwater river; passengers paid £2. The first wool of

the district was shipped by Mr. Champion to Messrs. Willis, Garrett and Co, Hobart Town. It was conveyed to the *Princess Charlotte* at Cowie's Creek, and the bales rolled off the bank into the vessel.

Williams Town at first gave great promise, and boasted finer houses than the capital. Captain McLean had the first house. But the want of water ruined the prospects of this Port.

HOTELS AND LICENCES.

The first liquor was sold by Mr. Fawcner to gratify the thirsty, though not on the same conditions as storekeepers sold the same in the early gold digging days. The latter were sly grog shops, selling in defiance of law; our primitive innkeepers benevolently retailed without a law. An Act was passed in Sydney, Sep. 9th, 1837, "making allowances for the irregularity of Justices of Port Phillip having granted certificates to certain individuals to sell liquor, instead of the usual licences, because of the want of communication between Port Phillip and Sydney." The first licence fee, in 1838, was £25; it was raised the next year to £50. License money had to be forwarded to the Treasurer at Sydney, until Oct. 1839. A rather remarkable Liquor Law came into force January 1st, 1839, containing provisions at once humane and salutary. Unable to prevent men indulging in strong drink, the legislators wisely and kindly sought so to restrict its use, and hedge it around, as to allow it to do as little harm as possible. The friends of the Colony would rejoice to see some of these provisions adopted by the Victorian Council.

The houses were allowed to be opened from 4 o'clock in the morning till 9 at night in summer, and from 6 to 9 in winter. On Sundays they were closed, excepting during the hours from 1 to 3, when wine and beer only could be sold to persons carrying it away; no spirits could be had, and nothing drank at the bar. No one but publicans were to sell spirits excepting in Melbourne. No billiard playing was sanctioned but by special consent of the magistrates, and the payment of an additional ten pounds. The like form and like fee were essential to late hours. A penalty of five pounds rested upon selling or giving drink to convicts, except by the master or his permission, and then only in quantities of not more than half a gill in 6 hours, or one whole gill in 24 hours. No workman could be paid in a public house under a penalty of five pounds. Better than all;—a similar penalty was incurred by a publican serving any one with drink,

when it was known that such person by his drinking habits injured his family! Drunkards were severely dealt with in those remote ages. The sentence was multiplied according to the number of convictions. The first brought in a fine or one day's turn at the tread-mill; the twentieth time of coming before the Officer subjected the offender to twenty times the fine or twenty days treadmill.

We will now give a few public house reminiscences. As before mentioned, Mr. Fawkner's first sod hut house of accomodation was on a Government reserve, the Market Place. On the sale of land in June 1837, that gentlemen erected a wooden hotel on his allotment behind the present *Shakespeare*, which, on the construction of his corner building, was converted into the "Port Phillip Patriot" office. The half acre on which the 'Shakespeare' stands cost Mr. Fawkner only £10. Funny stories are told of the old house. Having let his sod house to a Mr. Smith, that person refused to pay rent or give up possession, on the ground that Mr. Fawkner had no right to it, because it was erected on Government land. Lynch law supplied the want of legal redress; a band of Van Demonian gentle youths were sent upon the Sheriff's errand, and quickly dislodged the ungenerous tenant by rappings under spirituous influence.

The wattle and dab 'Lamb' Inn was opened by the veritable Smith. It was in Collins Street, nearly opposite Mr. Fawkner's. The tap room, which as usual then was outside the house, had not altogether a very creditable reputation. Harper's "British Hotel" was opposite the old Police Office, Market Square. Michael Carr opened the *Governor Bourke* in Flinders Lane west, at the south east corner of Queen Street and Flinders Lane. As he, like others, had erected his house before the Survey, and as it happened to come on a boundary line, he was compelled to purchase two allotments to secure his property. The corner half acre cost him £48 and the other £34. Michael Pender had also a little sod public house in Flinders Lane, the business street of the time. He bought the half acre on which it stood, running to Collins Street, 16 of block 4, for which he paid only £19. Originally from Launceston, an industrious, saving man, he brought over one of the earliest Melbourne bullock teams, which he employed in cutting, carting, and selling bush hay, at one pound a load; his wife then attended to the Inn. Getting on in the world, he was able to provide for his three sons in law. He established Mr. Cowell in the

"Royal Hotel," now the "Criterion"; Mr. John Thomas Smith, the Mayor of Melbourne, in the Adelphi, Flinders Lane, recently burnt; Mr. Branta, the other son in law, succeeded Mr. Smith, when that gentleman removed to the St. John's Tavern, Queen Street. Mr. Smith came from Sydney as Assistant to the Missionary Protector of the Aborigines, Mr. Langhorne. He was then a clerk in the office of Mr. John Hodgson, and afterwards a storekeeper opposite to the "Criterion;" purchasing bricks, timber, &c., from labouring men, and giving goods in return.

The "Royal Exchange" stood a little back from the Street, with a swinging sign board. Umpleby's Hotel was at Annand's corner. Moss's "Ship" Inn was in Flinders Lane. James Connell's "Royal Highlander," north site of the present "Temple Court" Hotel, at the corner of Queen Street and Chancery Lane, was like others of wattle and dab, and standing before the sale. Captain Lonsdale, according to custom, inspected the house and consented to its opening. Connell paid a high price for his half acre, £69. There were 18 hotels in Melbourne on the arrival of Mr. Latrobe. The thirsty reader must be informed that *good* liquor was first sold at one shilling a glass. To accommodate the ravenous appetites of their customers some publicans kept a cask of herrings on their counter. In those primitive days *Sticking Plasters* were in vogue. We do not mean to insinuate that Burkites prowled the dark lanes of our city. The plasters were certain money orders which shepherds and shearers brought down from the country, and placed in the safe custody of their friends of the tap, in whose bar they were stuck up until the amount was said to be drunk out. When the poor intoxicated simpletons had exhausted their exchequer, their bodies were removed to some dungeon-looking out-building, denominated the *Dead house*, whence they were afterwards precipitated into the Street, to make room for another sticking plaster. It is pleasing to record illustrations of the law of kindness. When one of our early landlords was expostulated with upon the absurdity of supposing that a man could drink out his plaster so soon, that model of benevolence replied, that if he allowed the fellow to drink out the full value of his money order, he would kill himself; "and sure," said he, "you wouldn't have me the man's murderer!" Temperance Societies were early in existence. The first clergyman of the Church of England, the first Scotch minister, and the first Independent, each

and all helped on the mission of sobriety, by public lectures and private appeals. A great meeting of the temperance friends took place, Oct. 30th, 1838, where several effective and interesting addresses were delivered.

AMUSEMENTS.

The old complaint existed then as now,—men were too busy to be amused. A fair lady, correspondent of our infant press, attempted to shake our citizens from their supine indifference to social pleasures, and exclaims, “If they (the gentlemen) will leave for a time counting their pounds, shillings and pence, and mingle a little among the ladies they would find themselves well rewarded.” Alas! the appeal was in vain. Still we had a grand cricket match in April 1839, in which the married, as they ought to have done for the honor of their ladies, beat the single. There were races in March, 1838. The Town Plate was £30, and £2 admission; the Ladies Purse, the same. The Hurdle match was £30 and £3 entrance; the Tavern Plate £20 and £1 entrance; and the Sweepstakes £18 and £1 entrance. In March 1839, Mr. Brown’s *Mauntain Maid* won the two first prizes. The first Hunt with hounds was on August 28th, 1839. There were 15 red coats led on by Old Tom Brown. A kangaroo was started; the chase was brilliant; the forester distanced horses and dogs; and, we have reason to believe, he regained his family home in safety.



THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE PORT PHILLIP PRESS.

The progress of National Literature indicates a people emerging from barbarism into civilization, or, advancing from a rude, unsettled position to one of leisure and comfort. When Port Phillip was but a sheep walk, Melbourne simply received stores and transmitted them to country stations. A nomadic state of society is not favourable to mental culture. As the town grew there arose the necessity of a medium of communication. Some wanted to buy and some to sell. Mr. John Pascoe Fawkner was the first to supply this desideratum. Nine years before the time to which we now refer, he had started a paper in Launceston. In the capacity of an hotel keeper, he associated the ghosts of departed poets and philosophers with *spirits* of a less intellectual order. In the advertisement of his hotel, in 1838, a couple of lines suffice to tell the public that the usual requisites of an Inn are of the best quality, but a dozen lines are expended in the detail of the literary attractions and privileges of his house. We are referred to English and Colonial Newspapers, Home Reviews, Novels, Poetry, Theology, History and a late Encyclopedia. Now we dare avow our conviction that no other man in these Colonies, or perhaps in the whole world, ever showed such solicitude for the intellectual improvement of the frequenters of his tap and parlour, as did this Father of the Port Phillip Press.

In the city of Tea tree and Gum trees it was not likely that the initiation of the Press would be on a great scale. On the contrary, the first paper was a manuscript one. It appeared on the first of January, 1838; "to which," as Mr. Westgarth tell us, "the people had free access for the perusal of commercial advertisements, interlarded with paragraphs of local gossip or contentions." It consisted of four pages of foolscap. The first contained the Leader. The second, third, and fourth pages gave advertisements of goods for sale, ships arriving and departing, &c., &c. Only one copy of the first number is known to be in existence, and is now in the possession of Capt. Lonsdale. William Archer, Esq., the talented author of "Statistics of Victoria," having been permitted to take a copy of the same, courteously favoured us with an inspection of this curiosity of Literature. We present the first page.

THE
MELBOURNE ADVERTISER
PORT PHILLIP AUSTRALIA

No 1 Written for and published by John P. Fawkner
January The 1st Monday 1838 Melbourne

Vol 1st

We do opine that Melbourne cannot reasonably remain longer marked on the Chart of advancing civilization without its Advertiser

Such being *our* imperial Fiat We do intend therefore by means of this *our* Advertiser to throw the resplendent light of Publicity upon all the affairs of this New Colony, Whether of Commerce, of Agriculture, or of the arts and Mysteries of the Grazier, All these patent roads to wealth are thrown open to the adventurous Port Phillipians All those sources of riches are about to (or already are) become accessible to each adventurous Colonist of NOUS The future fortunes of the rising Mebur-nians will be much accelerated by the dissemination of intelligence consequent upon the Press being

thrown open here But until the arrival of the printing Materials *we* will by means of the Humble pen diffuse such intelligence as may be found expedient or as may arise . . .

The energies of the present population of this rapidly rising district have never been exceeded in any of the Colonies of Britain

Its giant like strides have filled with astonishment the minds of all the neighbouring states, The Sons of Britain languish when debarred the use of that mighty Engine the Press, A very small degree of Support timely afforded will establish a Newspaper here, but until some further arrangements are made it will be merely an advertising sheet and will be given away to Householders

The majority of advertisements have, of course, reference to the proprietor of the 'Advertiser.' The patriarchal Blacksmith has this significant addition to his notice;—

A. Extra charge for credit.

Mr. Rucker has a long catalogue of articles on sale. Mr. Fawkner's celebrated notice of a library is the following :

Launceston Prices for Cash

The first Established Hotel in Melbourne

"Fawkner's Hotel being in possession of a large and Well Selected Library of English & Colonial papers to a late date Offers at once Mental and Bodily refreshment unrivalled in this quarter of the globe Lodgers allowed the use of the Library Gratis, There are 7 English & 5 Colonial weekly papers & 7 monthly & 3 Quarterly Reviews from Britain."

On the second page we read,—“Wanted by the Commercial World at Williams Town and Melbourne about 40 beacons, good Tea Tree stakes would answer, to mark the channel for the outer anchorage to this Town whoever will perform this service shall be entitled to *public thanks*.” The only *local* is as follows ;—“Report has reached Melbourne that Cammerfield the Murderer who was sent from Sydney to point out where seven men were said to be murdered has killed the Two Constables and one of the Soldiers who had him in charge & is now at large in the Bush well mounted and armed. A party of Volunteers we learn are gone in pursuit.”

After the issue of nine weekly manuscript numbers of the “Advertiser,” a small parcel of refuse type arrived from Launceston for the enterprising Editor. But where was the printer? “A Van Demonian youth of eighteen” who had some seven years before spent twelve months at the mystic art, was the honoured individual who first used the composing stick in Port Phillip. How this venerable Faustus performed his task, and did his own Devil, will be better understood by the reader of the accompanying *fac simile* which we are enabled to furnish through the kindness of R. W. Wrede, Esq. of Boroondara.

The first printed number of the MELBOURNE ADVERTISER, PORT PHILLIP, AUSTRALIA, contains several advertisements of Mr. Fawcner's, one of Mr. Batman's store, &c.

The Sandridge people will be interested in the following advertisement.

“The Undersigned begs to inform the public, that he has a boat and two Men in readiness for the purpose of crossing & recrossing passengers between William's Town and the opposite beach.

Parties from Melbourne are requested to raise a smoke, and the Boat will be at their service as soon as practicable, the least charge is five shillings and two shillings each when the number exceeds two.’

H. McLEAN.

The *Leader* is thus headed :

WE AIM TO LEAD NOT DRIVE.

“It is not our intention to make many professions—but it is now, and shall continue to be our constant study, to advance the interests of the Port Phillipians, to advocate their cause at all times with the powers that be, But not in the MOOD IMPERATIVE, we will point out our wants and as far as possible describe the easiest and best manner

of satisfying them, we will carefully cater for English, Colonial and Foreign Intelligence, and will add as much light and amusing reading as our limited space will allow."

Melbourne, was a wild and as far as Europeans are concerned, Uninhabited, when the Establishment of the proprietor of this journal arrived here in August, 1835, it is his boast that he caused Melbourne to become colonised. Mr. J. Batman had arrived at P. P. In June, 1835, but his taste led him to select Indented Head, in June 1836. The few settlers then arrived, subscribed and built a small place of worship, which still serves both for the Established Church (prayers and sermon being read therein by a Layman,) and for the the presbyterian, each having two services on the Sunday—a Sunday school, is also kept in the same, in which is also kept a day school. Large Subscriptions are now in progress to erect two separate Churches, one for each Establishment and the present place of worship is to be reserved for a School.

"We earnestly beg the public to excuse this our first appearance in the absence of the compositor who was engaged. We were under the necessity of trusting our first number (in print) to a Van Demonian youth of eighteen, and this lad only worked at this business about a year, from his tenth to his eleventh, 1830 to 1831. Next the *honest* printer from whom the type was bought has swept up all his old waste letter and called it type, and we at present labor under many wants, we even have not so much as Pearl Ash to clean the dirty Type."

After the leader, we have the state of the weather, and the drowning of 26 cattle crossing the Yarra. Then comes a romantic Italian tale of love, murder and beheading. The next paragraph concerns the 50th anniversary of the colony.—The Melbourne Races and Hobart Town Quarter's Sessions are duly reported. The English news is succeeded by an affecting poem upon a mother dying of grief at the tomb of her child. The European sketches are good. A capital review of Nichol's "Architecture of the Heavens" is copied on the fourth page. The Colonial intelligence is crowded together in an odd form; little justice being done to the editor by the careless printer :—

"We glean from the Colonial Times of Feb. 6th the following—The leading article is a paltry attempt at wit, upon the Lieut. Governor's visit to Flinders's we ask what purpose can such halderdash

effect. Why, it will disgust all sensible people—next SLANDER is deprecated, and this too by the Col. Times. The Editor rejoices over the pecunia likely to circulate from the five French Whalers and a Corvette now lying there, and advocates the advantage of a direct trade with France. VERY GOOD, then long extracts from English journals, Pickwick papers, &c. A long article about the eternal Dr. Lang.

"New Norfolk road making, is next introduced, to have a hit at Capt. Cheyne. Then O'Brien's Bridge for the same reason.

"Chief Justice Dowling has decided that Puffers are illegal.

"Some other trifling matters, and there is a long Police Report of two columns, the remainder are advertisements, and shipping intelligence."

The printed "Advertiser" was about 12 inches long, containing four pages of two columns each. The arrangement will be seen orthodox in character, and certainly, in spite of the printer boy and honest type merchant, creditable in detail. While amused at some oddities, the reader will regard the effort with complacency, and its author with gratitude.

The one year's apprentice (seven years ago,) was not allowed time to complete his knowledge of the Black Art. That awful representative of Colonial Law, Capt. Lonsdale, discovered at length that this weekly issue was really a Newspaper, preying upon public advertisers, without a Licence! It was not to be endured. The Colonial Treasury was not to be wronged, *insertions* were not to be paid for, the boy must go home, and the torch of Melbourne Intelligence was quenched in the ink of officialdom.

Next arose the first legalized paper in the Colony,—the PORT PHILLIP GAZETTE. The proprietors were Messrs. George Arden and Thomas Strode. The first named gentleman officiated as Editor, the other as Printer and Publisher. Both were residents of Sydney, and, entertaining similar views, united in the project. Mr. Arden was a young man of 19 years of age, of distinguished family, and of considerable literary qualifications. Mr. Strode had been overseer of the "Sydney Morning Herald." Without adequate funds, the two friends began their enterprise. A quantity of old type, that had been lying in pie in a shed for many years, was purchased at twopence a pound. A ricketty wooden press was picked up, the stone of which had a

gentle hollow in the centre, which materially interfered with the coming up of the type. The largest letters for advertisements, placards, &c., were only two line ones. Rollers also were purchased. The vessel containing the first regular appliances of a printing establishment anchored in Hobson's Bay, October 19th, 1838. When Mr. Strode beheld the stumps of Melbourne he declared his intention to return to Sydney, saying, that it was useless to establish a paper for blackfellows and kangaroos. Two merchants, however, Messrs. Rucker and Hodgson, offered to give him such an amount of private work as to induce him to remain.

The glorious mountain of disordered type was deposited on the floor of a newly finished house in Queen Street, between Bourke Street and the present Wesleyan Chapel of Collins Street. No friendly compositor was near to help our adventurer; not even a printer's devil. His worthy lady, like a good genius, came to the rescue. She could at least pick out a lot of b's and d's. But the type had to be cleaned; and where was the ley? After trying the ashes of various woods, the she-oak was found to be best for the purpose, and pronounced a stronger alkali than soda, which was then 1s. 6d. a pound. The whole was sorted in the cases, the press was fixed, the stone was smoothed. Now for the rollers; the composition on these was so hard that the very axe failed to make an impression. With a bold heart Mr. Strode set about making new ones. But what was he to do for a cylinder, and not a tinsmith in the place?

While at this harassing employment, his friend was preparing his articles, sorting type, procuring advertisements, and obtaining subscribers. With 80 names they had in Sydney, they soon showed a list of 300 copies secured. The eventful day came. Notice had been given that on Saturday, Oct. 27th, 1838, at 9 o'clock, the door would open and the light pour forth upon the Colonists. The little Temple of the Muses was soon surrounded, and, in true English style, a battering attack began because the Gazette was not quite ready. Doors and windows had to be securely barricaded. At noon the leaden images of thought had done their work, the crowd retired to read, and the poor unaided printer, exhausted with this wonderful fortnight's labor, retired to rest.

Mr. Strode must have been an enterprising printer. Among other shifts and experiments he contrived to make a roller of India rubber;

but the small quantity in town prevented him making one large enough for use. Eight years after, a London gentleman took out a patent for this discovery! Mr. Strobe was the first Colonial Illuminating Printer. At a loss for large letter in the early days, he had to cut all above 4 line letters; and, after many trials, he found seasoned New Zealand Pine to stand the sun and water best for his cutting. Beset with difficulties in 1839, when contending against Mr. Fawcner's weekly "Patriot," and the drunkenness and insubordination of his two workmen, he performed a very miracle of labour. For six weeks he contrived single-handed to bring out his *Bi-weekly* issue, without dummies, and without delay. The first finger was so inflamed with incessant picking up of type that he had to employ the next finger. He allowed himself but two hours sleep each night.

As before intimated, Mr. Fawcner's little paper was suspended because of its illegality. By receiving money for advertisements it had become a newspaper. In those convict days the law respecting those messengers of news was a very strict one. Two Sureties had to be found for respectability and propriety, each in the sum of £300. The printer, editor and publisher, each had to give security for good behaviour to a large amount. Should the paper change its office, fresh securities with due notice were forthcoming. Messrs. Arden and Strobe had complied with these regulations in Sydney. Mr. Fawcner for various reasons did not do so. In fact, no money could be tendered to Government in Melbourne till after this. When arrangements were perfected, which was not until the beginning of 1839, Mr. Fawcner came legally into the field, though his "Advertiser" was merged in the title of the "PORT PHILLIP PATRIOT." In an advertisement in the Gazette of January 30th, 1839, he intimated that he had been waiting months for the Act passed in December, which permitted him to make his arrangements in Melbourne. For six months he had retained the services of a compositor in readiness and for security. A compositor then received 50s. a week and 1s. an hour over-time. The "PATRIOT" appeared on Wednesday, February 16th, 1839. Subscribers paid quarterly 8s., if in advance; 10s. on the day due, and 12s. 6d. for trust. A six line advertisement was 3s. In April, 1840, Mr. Fawcner retired from the paper, when Mr. J. G. Smith became the editor and Mr. Watkins the publisher.

As we have at some length described the first paper published by Mr. Fawcner, it may interest the reader to know the character of the first number of the first legalized paper,—the “Gazette.” This was its motto; “To assist the enquiring, animate the struggling, and sympathise with all.” It consisted of four small pages with four columns each, and was less than one quarter the size of the “Argus.” The subscription was ten shillings a quarter. The first advertisement was about the “Firefly” steamer to Williams Town. Advertisements of shipping then followed, and those of the stores of Messrs. Rucker, Hodgson, Welsh, Chisholm, &c. Mr. Lamb notified his readiness to cut hair, and Mrs. Lilly to sell baby linen. Mr. McNall paraded the services of his “Romeo,” and Mr. Hodgson those of “Young Clydesdale.” Messrs. Hill and Lilly were Auctioneers. There was news from England and the Colonies, and a Price Current. From the Address we extract the following: “Politics, elsewhere the great theme of contention, particularly wherever the press has room to exert its influence, will in this instance be held in abeyance; the yet comparatively infant state of our settlement affords us fair reason to withhold our direct interference or comments upon a subject so rife with disquietude; with those of other and distant territories, what have we in our industrious, painstaking and money making town to do?” Again,—“We look upon this mixture of agriculturalists and stock breeders as one of the most fortunate circumstances which could have taken place.”—“Everything ought to be done, every inducement held out, every facility afforded to the class of small farmers, who can and will turn every foot of land to account.” There was an article condemning merchants and other money holders in Sydney for being our principal lauded proprietors and land jobbers, predicting that no improvements could be expected from them. In referring to the arrival of the Rev. Mr. Grylls, from Sydney, as Surrogate of Melbourne, the Editor could not help exclaiming,—“There seems to us to be a desperate want though of marriageable ladies.”

The paper was enlarged in January, 1840. It was not free from the prevailing vice of the early Colonial papers,—abuse of rival Editors. Some most disrespectful and disgraceful expressions issued from both sides soon after the appearance of Mr. Fawcner’s “Patriot.” The latter was the organ of the Van Diemen’s Land party in the Colony; the

"Gazette" had more aristocratical pretensions. The press of these Colonies may now justly rank in importance, moral tone, and literary merit with those of Britain and America.

RELIGION IN PORT PHILLIP.

No country can be great, prosperous and happy that disregards allegiance to the Almighty. The early history of the Australian Settlements furnishes no such pleasing records of piety and moral progress as those exhibited by the Pilgrim Fathers in the New England States. The times were different and the men were different. The organization of one Colony occurred in a period of religious excitement, and was originated by religious people. The establishment of the other happened in a period of religious torpor, and consisted of refuse criminals. And although, even in early times, accessions to the population of the two parent states of Australia of a more virtuous class occasionally took place, the devotional element was never prominent. Even now, we suppose that, as a community, we are regarded as second to none in the world for intelligence and enterprise, while our reputation for the refinements of morality and the fervour of piety is not equally sustained.

New South Wales was years without a Church, and the wretched edifice then erected cost £40. The men and women ordered to service were long exposed to the weather. Port Phillip had not such an indifferent and a neglected people, though their efforts to provide for Divine worship did not put them to much inconvenience. We propose to consider the progress of religion here in the narrative of the rise of successive denominations of Christians, in their order. Happily in these Colonies we know of no supremacy of Churches. At the formation of the Association, which was the means of settling this country, it was resolved that none but married servants should be employed, and that a Catechist be appointed and supported. The gentleman nominated to that office, who did subsequently hold religious worship by the Yarra, and who was also to fulfil the duties of surgeon to the company, was the present respected Mayor of Geelong, Dr. Thomson.

The first public religious service held in Port Phillip was upon the occasion of the visit of the Rev. Mr. Orton, Wesleyan Minister of Van

Diemen's Land. That gentleman accompanied Mr. Batman, when he brought over his wife and family, in April, 1836. The particulars of the first sabbath celebrations we received from Mr. Willoughby, one of the worshippers. Seats were placed beneath the she-oak trees on Batman's hill, on the eastern slope. A considerable number of the aborigines assembled, and conducted themselves with the strictest decorum. But the dramatic feature of the scene was the entrance of the ten Sydney Blacks, through whose means Mr. Batman had first held friendly conference with the natives. These smart, intelligent looking fellows were dressed in red shirts and white trowsers, with black kerchiefs round their necks. But the chief of the party was decorated with a full military suit presented to him by Governor Arthur; the Colonel costume was in excellent condition, and the cocked-hat and feathers formed the crowning ornament to a dress which he wore with ease and grace. The service commenced by the reading of the Church of England service, the responses being given by James Simpson, Esq. The hymns tunes were pitched by Dr. Thomson. The subject of the discourse was the address of the Saviour to Nicodemus, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." The Rev. Mr. Naylor conducted service in April, 1837, on the occasion of a visit from Hobart Town.

Capt. Lonsdale read prayers in the Old Court House. His congregation consisted of the soldiers, constables, the few convicts, and not many settlers. When Mr. George Langhorne arrived, at the close of 1836, to open a missionary establishment for the blacks upon the Yarra, he became the acting pastor. Aspiring then to the ministry, he prepared and read his own sermons. Going to Sydney in hopes of ordination, and being disappointed, he threw up his religious engagements in disgust, and turned to vulgar trade. The want of mercantile success he regarded as a punishment for neglect of duty; he renewed his studies, and is now an esteemed Colonial Chaplain of New South Wales. When he left Melbourne he bestowed his mantle upon Mr. James Smith, agent for a Colonial House, and formerly purser on board a man of war. He had by him a choice stock of sermons, which he had used before, and which were now read again with much fervour by this excellent layman, who is recorded to have frequently evidenced his own interest in the subject by the shedding of tears. At that period a sheepfold stood on the site of the present St. James

Church. It was judged proper to have a building solely appropriated to religious services. Among the subscriptions, was the noble sum of fifty pounds from Mr. Batman. A little wooden place was then constructed near the present church, which, though ostensibly for the CHURCH OF ENGLAND, was open for the afternoon to the occasional ministry of other denominations. The following is the description of the church in July, 1838 :—"A small square building, with an old ship's bell suspended from a most defamatory gallows like structure, fulfilled the duty of Church or Chapel to the various religious denominations." Mr. Hailes mentions that the convicts of the settlement, who must, according to law, attend worship, were stationed on one side; and in an opposite corner, screened by a curtain, were those important auxiliaries,—the singers. When the reader is informed that certain soldiers as well as convicts were obliged to be present, and that the total number accommodated in the room was only 90, he may form a mental estimation of the large influx of free worshippers in a place then mustering many hundreds of people. The devoted Quaker Missionaries, Messrs. J. Backhouse and G. W. Walker paid a religious visit to Port Phillip, in November, 1837, and were offered the use of this first place of worship. They record, "Our Gracious Master was pleased to grant a more powerful sense of his presence than we had ventured to hope for." They preached also at the Aboriginal Station of Mr. Langhorne's, and at the residence of Mr. John Gardiner. A Sabbath school was organized in very early times; the present Mayor of Melbourne, Mr. Smith, was one of the first teachers, and a constant attendant at the primitive prayer meetings. As early as July 30th, 1838, a meeting was called to consider the means of procuring a church and a clergyman. It was resolved to raise £200, with a hope of procuring aid from Government. Messrs. Welsh, Rucker and Fawcner were to receive subscriptions. In November, 1838, tenders were called for repairs. So little was their zeal that these repairs were not completed till the end of February, and merely consisted of a cedar pulpit, and eight cedar pews for the gentry, constructed by Mr. Napier. No attempt at enlargement was made to accommodate many willing to attend. In April, 1839, a great advance was made, for Messrs. Rucker and Welsh were elected Churchwardens.

The first clergyman of the Church of England was the Rev. John Cond Grylls, of Dublin and Cambridge, who was sent down from Sydney

to Melbourne by Bishop Broughton. The date of his appointment was Sept. 10, and that of his arrival, Oct 12th, 1838. He came in the barque "Denmark Hill," Dawbeny, master, which had the honor also of conveying the printing establishment of Messrs. Arden and Strode for the "Gazette." Mr. Grylls is described as being of small stature, with a gentle and amiable disposition. His sermons were read with solemnity, and were not without their influence upon some of the auditors. The subject of his first address was the language of St. Paul, "I desire to know nothing among you, save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." An incoherence of speech troubled the good man. His general demeanour was kind and consistent, and gained him the good will of the Colonists. As such terrible notions of the wildness and barbarism of these Botany Bay parts existed in the minds of the quiet English folks, Mr. Grylls, in contemplating a visit thence, would not bring out his family, until he could be assured of their safety from the Colonial Ogres. Finding that murder and burglary were not our ordinary diversions, and that the climate was not a Sierra Leone, he wished to go home for his children. His people gave him a handsome testimonial, and allowed him twelve months leave of absence. The Bishop did not allow Mr. Smith to rust out, having appointed him in May, 1839, as a layman to conduct service at Williams Town, a place heretofore sadly neglected. A Mr. Campbell of Sydney nobly presented the infant church cause of Melbourne with £100, and 50 acres as a Glebe. The minister's stipend from Government was then £200. It was in February, 28th, 1839, that the Regulations were issued, that no grant be allowed for place of worship or pastor's house, until the sum of £300 has been subscribed and paid; and no allowance for a minister's salary could be made until there were at least one hundred adults attending his services.

Though Mr. Grylls resided in a cottage in Bourke Street, near Queen Street, lately tenanted by Dr. O'Mullane, his successor appears to have purchased a balcony house in Church Street, opposite, St. James' Church. In the meanwhile the Church fund dragged its slow length along. In September, 1839, it was decided not to attempt to build the whole church according to the plan, but to begin the nave. It was not however, until the 9th of November, that the Foundation Stone was laid; this was done by the newly arrived Superintendant, Mr. Latrobe.

The first Church of England day school was established in January, 1838, under the care of Mr. James Clarke. The second master, Mr. Abbott, appointed in May, 1838, received the noble salary of £50. Before this period, however, Mrs. Cook had a boarding school in Flinders Street, near the site of our Bridge. Brought over by Mr. Batman from Van Diemen's Land to educate his own daughters, she opened the first educational establishment in Port Phillip; her pupils still speak with esteem of her talents, and affection of her character.

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS.—The early history of this body of Christians is interesting. Though without a pastor they thought it wrong to neglect the assembling of themselves together. Upon Easter Sunday, in April 1839, they were associated, as usual, at prayers, when the occasion seemed fitting to commence an effort to raise a chapel. They were then worshipping in a wooden building attached to the house of Mr. Bodecin. A subscription was commenced, and the sum of £120 then raised. The next thing was to apply for a clergyman. On April 28th, a memorial was drawn up addressed to Dr. Polding, then Vicar Apostolic for New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, &c.; Dr. Ullathorne was gazetted Vicar General in 1833. The memorialists expressed their anxiety about their children, then mustering one hundred, "daily increasing." They were solicitous "to be united by Discipline, as they ever have been in Faith, with the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church." As some worldly wise inducement, they shrewdly add, that there is "not a place in which the temporal advantages of a clergyman could be better or more amply provided." In conclusion, they solemnly entreat that their spiritual head would "afford them those religious aids, without which all human prosperity is vain and nugatory." But the appeal was needless. Their condition had been thought of, and a pastor sent them. The Rev. P. B. Geoghan arrived from Sydney, May 15th, 1839; his coadjutor, the Rev. Rd. Welsh came in September following. Three days after his arrival, Dr. Geoghan wrote an earnest public appeal to the Protestants for help. "We are" said he, "among you; before you; and we need but refer you to our numbers, industry and talent to induce you to acknowledge our importance in a new born, rising, and struggling Colony. We are, however, poor, as a community, and therefore, call upon you with confidence for assistance in our undertaking." As a conciliatory sentiment he adds, "We need not, at the

present day revert to those bug-bears, the offsprings of ignorance and fraud, which kept our fathers at variance for so many ages." Twelve collectors were appointed, with Mr. Bodecin as Treasurer. A wooden building was commenced upon an allotment. But when the Catholics got a promise of ground at the corner of Lonsdale and Elizabeth Streets, they removed their little frame work up into the bush, as it was then called. At a meeting, held June 22nd, thanks were tendered to Capt. Lonsdale for his kindness in permitting occupation of the site until the grant could be obtained from Government. Thanks also were presented to Mr. Hogue and to Mr. R. H. Browne of Heidelberg for the old place of Worship. The Lonsdale Street temporary chapel cost £100, and was opened July 28th. It held 400 persons. The material of which it was composed may still be seen, as it now forms the floor of St. Francis Cathedral. An advertisement notified the times of worship on the day of opening as follows ;—Short Service, half past 8 ; Parochial Service, 11 ; Exhortation on Social Duties, 4 o'clock. In an address to the Catholics of Port Phillip, in June, 1839, the Rev. P. B. Geoghan thus beautifully expresses himself ; " To recognize the right of every one to Worship God according to his conscience, is a noble and enlightened principle ;—it alone can give a permanent basis to society, because upon it alone can be combined the various forms of christian worship into a structure for the common good." In September an effort was made to raise £300 in order to secure the Government aid. Only £43 were in hand. At the meeting was obtained the amount of £106 19s. in cash and £22 in promissory notes. One of the resolutions passed was as follows ; " That our thanks are gratefully offered to the esteemed individuals of other persuasions, who have so generously aided us in erecting a place to Worship God, according to our conscience ; and we pledge ourselves to maintain, to the uttermost of our power, the liberal christian spirit which at present distinguishes the district of Port Phillip." This resolution was proposed by one clergyman and seconded by the other.

THE PRESBYTERIANS.—In the primeval days of worship in the little wooden box, when Mr. James Smith read prayers in the morning, the Presbyterians had service in the afternoon, early in 1838. This was conducted by the Rev. James Clow, formerly a chaplain in the East India Company's establishment, who retired on his pension. The Rev. Mr. Forbes arrived in Melbourne, January 28th, 1839. His

memory is dearly cherished by all classes and religious professions. Wholly devoted to his Master's business he lived a useful and earnest life. One of the Old Hands thus spoke of him to the writer; "*He was a good man; why, he wouldn't think of making money.*" His first elders were David Patrick and Robt. Campbell. The attendants upon his early ministry were about 200. When the Presbyterians had an allotment granted to them on the Eastern Hill, they first erected a wooden edifice as a school room. In May, 1839, they resolved to erect a brick building, the present Scots' school room. This was to cost £400, and they hoped to obtain half that amount from Government. On the Geelong side the progress was slow. The township was long struggling into being. But the settlers on that side were mainly sons of Old Scoti, and early in 1839 they forwarded a memorial home to the General Assembly for a minister of their beloved Kirk. A volunteer appeared in the person of Mr. Love, a gentleman who had been previously for many years successfully engaged in teaching. But he did not arrive until April, 1840.

The first Scots school was opened in November, 1838, by Mr. Robert Campbell, of Glasgow Seminary. The respective weekly charges for pupils were 1s., 1s. 6d. and 2s.

THE WESLEYANS.—As early as April, 1836, a Wesleyan minister visited the New Settlement. This was the Rev. Joseph Orton, of Hobart Town, who came on a missionary tour, having Buckley as his guide. The result of his inspection was the selection of a site on the Barwon, 40 miles westward of Geelong, afterwards known as the Buntingdale Mission Station. His letter to the English society contained some interesting notices of the Aborigines. The response was the appointment of Messrs. Hurst, Tuckfield and Skeavington, who arrived Sep. 9th, 1839. Mr. Orton paid a second visit to Port Phillip in April, 1838. On his first visit he preached before Mr. Batman's house upon the hill, and Dr. Thomson's tent by the Yarra.

The first class meeting was held by James Jennings; then in the hut of George Worthy, a tailor, on the site of the Australian Dock. It was next removed to the residence of an excellent man, William Witton, carpenter, Little Bourke Street, now the "White Hart Inn." Mr. John James Peers, a builder, then undertook to erect a small brick chapel on his allotment at the north-west corner of Swanston Street and Flinders Lane, providing the Wesleyans would pay him

the cost of its erection when they went elsewhere. A record of July, 1839, says that it held 150 persons. That primitive edifice is now the kitchen to Mr. Monaghan's public house. While the friends were looking out for a suitable site for better accommodation, one of the members, a Mr. Walker, of the Survey Office, brought intelligence of the fine allotment at the corner of Collins and Queen Streets. This had been bought for a Sydney gentleman, who repudiated the sale after the deposit had been paid. It was then proposed to have it for the Post Office. But the Wesleyans were prompt and earnest in their application for the ground as a chapel and school site, and fortunately obtained it. At a missionary meeting held in the temporary chapel Sep. 9th, 1839, Dr. Thomson in the chair, Mr. Tuckfield announced that he had printed 50 copies of the Alphabet for the aborigines. The first Secretaries of the missions were Messrs. Tuckfield and Willoughby, Evening worship was held occasionally in a temporary place of Little Bourke Street. On the Geelong side, before any township existed, the two Buntingdale ministers held a Sunday service in Dr. Thomson's wool shed, on the Barwon; there were usually 50 persons present.

INDEPENDENTS.—The first minister of this denomination was the Rev. Mr. Waterfield, who arrived from England, calling at Hobart Town, May, 22nd, 1838. He was cordially received into the house of Mr. John Gardiner. This house, at which services were held for awhile, stood near the "Bull and Mouth," Bourke Street; it was lately a wooden boarding house. Upon the erection of Mr. Fawkner's hotel, the large room was freely offered to the worshippers. About 100 individuals met there on the Sunday. On June 4th, 1838, at a meeting held in Mr. Gardiner's house it was resolved to apply to Government for a grant of land. The sentiments of Governor Bourke upon the great question may be gathered from the following extract from a despatch of the year 1835; "The means of Education being secured, I shall feel disposed to leave it to the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants to provide for churches and clergy. To aid all where the creeds are various seems impossible, and a partial distribution of the public funds appears nearly allied to injustice." At the meeting in June, it was also resolved to obtain further subscriptions for a chapel, and the following were appointed a building committee; Messrs. Waterfield, J. P. Fawkner, E. M. Sayers, H. Kettle, and J. Aberline. The following sums were then announced; £181 raised in Melbourne,

£130 in Sydney, £115 in Hobart Town. The foundation of the new place was laid by Henry Hopkins, Esq., of Hobart Town, on Sep. 2nd, 1839. The temporary chapel in July held 100 worshippers.

THE BAPTISTS had their first meetings in a tent upon the site of the "Argus" office, on Mr. Napier's allotment. The service was conducted by Mr. Peter Virtue.



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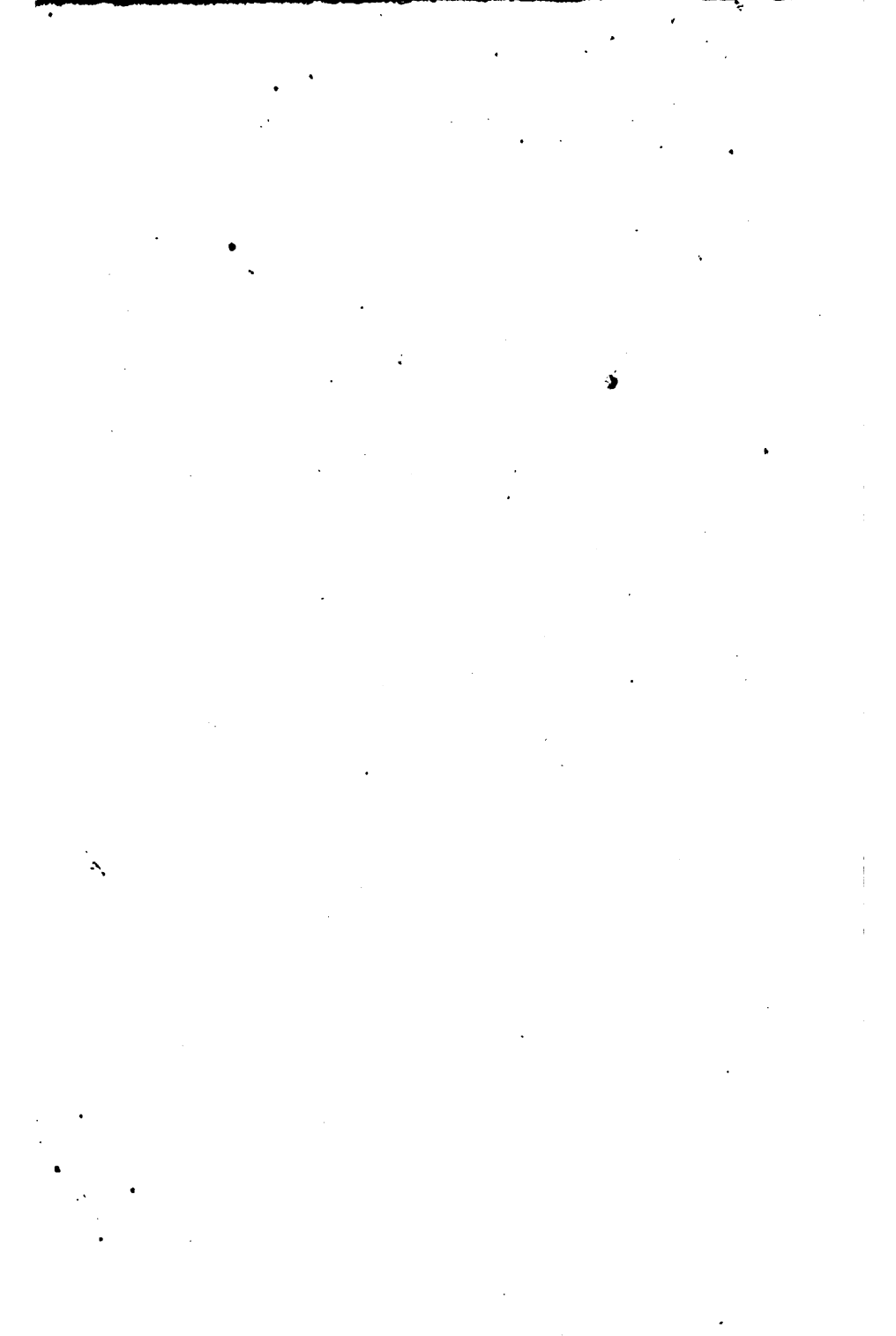
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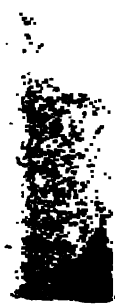
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